



USAID | **RWANDA**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

LAND PROJECT, RWANDA

ASSESSMENT OF LAND RESEARCH CAPABILITIES IN RWANDA
February 2013
Strategic Objective 1

Contract No. AID-696-C-12-00002

Prepared For

U.S. Agency for International Development
USAID/Rwanda Democracy and Governance
Office
Contract No. AID-696-C-12-00002

Prepared By

Chemonics International Inc.
1717 H Street NW #1
Washington, DC 20006
Phone: 202-955-3300
Fax: 202-955-3400
www.chemonics.com



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
INKUNGA Y'ABANYAMERIKA

RWANDA

ASSESSMENT OF LAND RESEARCH CAPABILITIES IN RWANDA: LAND PROJECT

CONTRACT NUMBER: AID-696-C-12-0002

February 2013

This report is made possible by the support of the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID.) The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

ASSESSMENT OF LAND RESEARCH CAPABILITIES IN RWANDA

LAND PROJECT

Contract No. AID-696-C-12-0002

Chemonics International, Inc. and the National Opinion Research Center (NORC)

February 2013

This report is made possible by the support of the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID.) The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

CONTENTS

Executive Summary	1
Background and Objectives	4
Approach to Capabilities Assessment.....	4
Organizations Reviewed	6
Overview of Findings	7
Implications of Findings	9
Organizational Research Capabilities	10
Bibliography	37
Annexes	
Annex 1 Self-Assessment Template	51

Acronyms

CCM	Center for Conflict Management
CSO	Civil Society Organization
GoR	Government of Rwanda
ILPD	Institute for Legal Practice and Development
IPAR	Institute for Policy and Research
INES	Institut d'Enseignement Supérieur de Ruhengeri
IRD	Institute of Research and Dialogue for Peace
LAF	Rwanda Legal Aid Forum
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
NIS	National Institute of Statistics
NUR	National University of Rwanda
LRC	Rwanda Law Reform Commission
RTDA	Rwanda Transportation Development Agency

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

One of the primary objectives of the LAND project is to strengthen the capacity of Rwandan organizations and institutions to carry out high-quality, evidence-based research on land-related issues that can inform the direction of policy. By assessing the research capabilities of research entities and CSOs in Rwanda, the project seeks to be in better position to design and target its assistance and also identify those organizations that have demonstrated particular skills and interest in land-related research and policy advocacy. These capability assessments will also play a role in identifying the particular research capacity building needs of organizations submitting proposals to the LAND project to carry out research on select priority themes.

Twelve organizations were reviewed, including four academic institutions, three government institutions, and five NGOs. Each of these institutions had been identified as leaders in their fields by the Chemonics team during proposal preparation based on consultations with civil society organizations and government officials, and were engaged by Chemonics in discussions regarding their interest in participating in the project in some capacity. The assessment looked at several aspects of organizational research capacity, including their abilities to design and implement research and to use research to influence policy development through advocacy measures.

The majority of the information for this report was gathered through self-assessment questionnaires completed by the selected organizations. Seven organizations responded to the questionnaire and responses were awaited from two additional organizations at the time this report was prepared. In other cases, the information was collected from interviews with representatives of the organizations.

In keeping with the project objective of promoting evidence-based research on land issues, emphasis was placed on organizational experience carrying out empirical research, which typically entails collection of original data to answer specific research questions or hypotheses. Due to the premium that is often placed on large-scale quantitative research to inform policy design at national levels, examination of capacities in this area also formed a central part of the assessment.

Research projects undertaken by organizations were also reviewed for this assessment. Simple criteria were used, such as relevance, logical research hypotheses and models, competent and appropriate use of research tools, and reasonable relationship between findings and conclusions. These assessments of prior research are necessarily subjective.

Some key findings include:

- Robust technical expertise for conducting empirical research, especially that which employs quantitative methods, is found in only three, perhaps four, of the organizations reviewed.

- With the exception of the academic institutions, most organizations reviewed outsource for technical research talent today.
- Most of the research done by local organizations employs qualitative research methods, such as case studies, legal analyses and informal polling of membership organizations. While these approaches can be useful and informative for certain topics, they are not the high-level empirical research envisioned by this project.
- Only four organizations appear to be capable of carrying out large scale survey research, but this may be a matter of financial resources rather than technical capabilities. There were no organizations that carried out sophisticated program or project evaluation studies through experimental design or econometric modeling.
- The technically more sophisticated research entities are government sponsored and supported (e.g. National Institute of Statistics, National University of Rwanda).
- Most of the NGOs reviewed view land issues through the prism of their own policy concerns.
- Substantive strength is found in a few key topical areas concerning land, including conflict resolution, land law and legal reform, land management, administration, surveying and GIS.
- There is very little evidence of sophisticated monitoring and evaluation research.
- A good deal of work reviews and synthesizes existing literature and data sources, rather than reports findings from original research. Literature reviews and interpretive work appear generally to be good quality.
- Legal institutes and law faculties appear to be capable of high level legal analysis and interpretation, but empirical analysis of law and legal procedures that use social science methodologies to analyze the effects of changes in law and policy on behavior are uncommon.
- Though generalization is difficult, based on information gathered from the organizations and agencies surveyed, weaknesses include inability to design and implement high level evaluation studies, modeling and econometric analysis, and statistical analysis.

Some conclusions drawn from the assessment findings include:

- Capacity assessments of local organizations should take into account their divergent needs and capabilities, recognizing that there will always be some degree of specialization.
- In working with CSOs, the LAND project should consider improving basic research skills and levels of understanding, including: interviewing skills; focus group organization and reporting; use of database systems and data entry; understanding charts and tables; critically evaluating data; preparing proposals and reports; designing a good poll/survey; logical/results frameworks; procedural mapping and analysis; how to design a research project. These basic skills can produce good original research without having to develop sophisticated quantitative skills in every CSO.

- Some thought should be given to how governmental entities can be integrated into project activities, as they will likely be the main consumers and conduits of research and can be important supporters of ideas generated by non-governmental actors.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSESSMENT

The USAID sponsored LAND project has as one of its main objectives to identify and improve through targeted technical assistance the abilities of Rwanda organizations to conduct high-quality, evidence-based research that can contribute in a positive way to the policy dialogue on land issues in Rwanda. The project supports a broad range of land issue research, including for example land tenure, land use, land and gender, land tenure regularization, land and poverty, access to land, conflict resolution and agricultural productivity. The project will offer competitive opportunities for Rwandan research entities and CSOs to undertake relevant land policy research with technical assistance to build skills in research and policy advocacy.

To achieve this objective the LAND project sought to assess the existing research capabilities of local organizations, particularly those already engaged in land-related research and/or advocacy. Assessing research capacity strengths and weaknesses is expected to facilitate better design and targeting of the types of assistance the project provides, and also to enable the project to identify those organizations that have demonstrated particular skills and interest in land-related research and advocacy. These capability assessments will also play a role in identifying the particular research capacity building needs of organizations submitting proposals to the LAND Project to carry out research on select priority themes.

This assessment looked at several capabilities of the organizations, including their ability to design and implement research and to use research to influence policy development. Particular attention was paid to outreach and advocacy activities. With respect to the government agencies included in the assessment, interviews also focused on their experience with and ability to commission and manage research outsourced to outside organizations and institutions.

APPROACH TO CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENTS

The majority of the information for this report was gathered through self-assessment questionnaires completed by the selected organizations. Seven organizations responded to the questionnaires and responses from two organizations were awaited at the time this report was prepared. In other cases, the information was collected from interviews with representatives of the organizations. In each case the assessments were supplemented by web research of the organizations and by review of available studies and other publications produced by the organizations. Topics covered by the assessment included organizational vision and mission; organizational legal and management structure; human, financial and physical resources; staff experience and capabilities; specific experience in land policy; relationships with development partners; prior research; and familiarity with research tools and techniques. Prior research reports, when available, were reviewed to determine relevance of research questions and hypotheses; familiarity

with research tools (e.g. survey research, focus groups, key person interviewing); facility with data analysis; and presentation of results.

The template for the self-assessments by the organizations, which follows to some extent the Human and Institutional Capacity Development (HICD) guidelines and self-assessment templates recommended by USAID,¹ is attached as Appendix 1.

In keeping with the project objective of promoting “evidence-based” research on land matters, particular emphasis was placed on experience with what is called empirical research, which typically entails collection of original data to answer specific research questions or hypotheses. While many tools can be used to collect and analyze empirical data, research designed to inform policy – especially at the national level – often relies on survey methods or collection and analysis of administrative socio-economic data. Data gathered using these tools are typically analyzed using statistical or econometric analytical methods with conclusions drawn from the analysis assigned quantitative degrees of reliability depending on the design of the research and the tools used. Qualitative research, by contrast, is typically not conducive to quantitative analysis, and often relies on gathering information through case studies, review of legal and historical information, focus groups and smaller scale surveys which do not meet rigorous standards for statistical reliability. Increasingly, gold standards for research involve combining quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection and analysis to capitalize on their relative strengths in responding to a particular research question or hypothesis.

The emphasis of this assessment on assessing capabilities to carry out larger-scale empirical research reflects the fact that such research is widely regarded to be best suited to analyze complex issues of public policy, including, for example, determining the results or impacts of government programs and policies, a main concern of land-related research for this project.

Regarding the assessment of actual research projects, aside from the fact that there is not much consensus on objective criteria with which to rate research quality, the few criteria on which many agree (e.g. quality of periodical research is published in, favorable peer reviews of research, number of times published research is cited, etc.) are not easily applied in Rwanda. The research projects reviewed for this assessment were considered in terms of simple criteria such as relevance, logical research hypotheses and models, competent and appropriate use of research tools, and reasonable relationship between findings and conclusions. Ultimately, this aspect of the assessment was a very limited “peer review” and is necessarily somewhat subjective.

The assessment does not seek to rank the organizations reviewed in terms of their capabilities. The data available and criteria used for the assessment were too subjective and impressionistic to create a reliable objective ranking of capabilities. Moreover, the experience and capabilities of the organizations differs so widely that no ranking would

¹ See, for example, Human and Institutional Capacity Development Handbook, USAID, Washington, DC, October 2010.

provide a true picture of their capabilities in any given context or with respect to any particular research agenda. In addition, there are indications that with focused training, an objective of the LAND project, the capabilities of many of these organizations might be raised considerably.

ORGANIZATIONS REVIEWED

This initial round of organizational assessments focused on the primary project partners identified at this stage of the work with which relationships had been established. Some of the non-governmental organizations are expected to participate in the first round of competitive tenders for research proposals. The assessments included three Government of Rwanda agencies: the Rwanda Law Reform Commission, the National Institute of Statistics, and the Legislative Drafting Department of the Ministry of Justice. Although they would not be eligible to be direct recipients of project support, they may have important roles as the main clients for research performed by non- governmental organizations, as well as being competent research centers in their own right. In addition, four academic institutions, all of which are state supported, and five NGOs participated in the assessment.

Generalizing, the organizations assessed can be characterized as those with a primary focus on research, including the academic institutions, centers, institutes and “think-tanks,” and advocacy organizations which perform and use research in support of their public policy objectives and activities. The academic research organizations, many of which are state supported, can and do support advocacy organizations by performing research and supplying research skills, but typically do not independently advocate for particular issues or interests. This distinction does not always hold however, as several specialized research institutions do seem to engage in some advocacy on behalf of certain issues. Examples include the activities of the Institute for Legal Practice and Development, a state supported academic research institute, in promoting judicial reform, and those of the Center for Conflict Management, a state-supported research center of the NUR, in advocating for conflict management and resolution.

Table 1 summarizes the organizations reviewed and identifies additional organizations for which assessments could be pursued over the course of the project, resources permitting.

Table 1: Land Research Capabilities Assessments September 12, 2012

Self-Assessments		Interviews
Complete	Requested	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National University of Rwanda • Imbaraga • Haguruka • Institute of Research and Dialogue for Peace • Center for Conflict Management of NUR • INES • Institute for Legal Practice and Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NUR Dept. of Agriculture • NUR Faculty of Law • RCN • Institute for Policy and Research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Justice • Law Reform Commission • Rwanda Legal Aid Forum • Landnet/Rwanda Initiative for Sustainable Development • National Institute of Statistics

OVERVIEW OF FINDINGS

- Robust technical expertise for research is found in only three, perhaps four, of the organizations reviewed – including the universities (most of which are or will soon become state institutions), plus a few government and NGO research institutes such as the National Institute of Statistics and the Rwanda Legal Aid Forum .
- With the exception of the academic institutions, most organizations reviewed outsource for technical research talent. A few large network organizations (LandNet, Rwanda Legal Aid Forum) have large and relatively sophisticated memberships that they can draw on for informal polling and monitoring of program activity at the local level using simple tools.
- Much of the research done by local organizations employs qualitative research methods, for example case studies, legal analyses and informal polling of membership organizations. While these approaches can be useful and informative for certain topics, they are not the high-level empirical research envisioned by this project. There also appears to be some research that draws on administrative and other data collected by the government. Most large scale empirical research, for example scientifically designed and statistically robust surveys, appears to be done by government agencies or international donors. There are only three or four organizations capable of carrying out large scale survey research, but this

- may be a matter of financial resources rather than technical capabilities. There were no organizations that carried out sophisticated program or project evaluation studies through experimental design or econometric modeling.
- Several of the technically more sophisticated research entities are government sponsored (e.g. National Institute of Statistics, National University of Rwanda). There is a rapidly emerging system for legislative development in Rwanda and government bodies, including primarily the Ministry of Justice, the Law Reform Commission and other Ministries, play the major role. These organizations may become important consumers and reviewers of research done by non-governmental entities.
 - Most of the organizations reviewed view land issues through the prism of their own policy concerns. For example, the organizations that are concerned primarily with post-genocide reconstruction see land as a source of conflict and opportunity for conflict resolution. Others may see land as an issue of women's rights, and some focus on technical issues such as land administration, surveying and registration systems, and agricultural productivity. Only a few organizations (e.g. LandNet/RISD) focus particularly on land issues and could potentially carry out a broad array of research on land matters.
 - Substantive strength is found in a few key topical areas concerning land, including conflict resolution, land law and legal reform, land management, administration, surveying and GIS.
 - In terms of experience and competence with research techniques many organizations claim to have abilities to organize and implement basic household surveys, focus group discussions and key person interviews, though the evidence of them actually having done so is limited. Use of survey tools can be found in published research reports but this assessment has not verified how and by whom the surveys were implemented. With a few exceptions, survey research appears to be limited to small purposive samples and used to supplement or verify information gathered by other techniques such as key informant interviews and focus group discussions. Samples of 70-100 households are not unusual. Households typically are not scientifically selected nor do the small sample sizes lend themselves to statistically robust analysis. There are some examples of larger surveys of 900-1500 respondents. Of course, the National Institute of Statistics, a GoR agency, carries out many large surveys which are scientifically designed.
 - There is very little evidence of sophisticated monitoring and evaluation research. Most evaluation research seems to be *ex ante*, without the benefit of base line data or prior evaluation design. Given that, there is some familiarity with the identification and use of output and outcome indicators as evaluation tools. It is probably safe to say that there is no experimental evaluation done, and sophisticated modeling and econometric analysis of existing or new data is rare.
 - Most organizations reviewed are familiar with and have implemented focus groups, and most appear to be adept at summarizing and reporting focus group data accurately.
 - A good deal of work reviews and synthesizes existing literature and data sources, rather than drawing findings from original research. Literature reviews and interpretive work appear generally to be good quality.

- Many organizations have carried out case studies. These typically consist of historical, legal, sociological and interpretive studies buttressed in some cases by reference to existing supportive data.
- Legal institutes and law faculties appear to be capable of high level legal analysis and interpretation, but empirical analysis that uses social science methodologies to analyze the effects of changes in law and policy on behavior are uncommon. There are some studies by advocacy organizations employing evaluation of legal changes, including for example assessments relating to women's land succession and inheritance rights and access to justice.
- Though generalization is difficult, based on information gathered from the organizations and agencies participating in this assessment, weaknesses in research capacities include abilities to design and implement large-scale evaluation studies; modeling and econometric analysis; and statistical analysis. Though many studies include small surveys, sample development procedures are not rigorous and statistical rigor is rarely discussed, leading to the presumption that these have not been major concerns. The implication is that there may be some need for upgrading local organizations' understanding of survey design and quantitative data analysis.

IMPLICATIONS OF FINDINGS

- Capacity assessments of local organizations should take into account their divergent needs and capabilities, recognizing that there will always be some degree of specialization. It may not make sense to mentor certain local organizations in the fine points of evaluation research and quantitative methodologies if they lack the trained staff to make use of these, but they can perhaps be aided by, for example, training in how to construct a good policy argument or creating a trained corps of survey administrators from among their members.
- In working with CSOs, the LAND project should consider improving basic research skills and levels of understanding, like interviewing skills; focus group organization and reporting; use of database systems and data entry; understanding charts and tables; critically evaluating data; preparing proposals and reports; designing good polling surveys; logical/results frameworks; procedural mapping and analysis; and research project design. These simple skills can produce good original research without having to develop sophisticated quantitative skills in every CSO.
- Some thought should be given to how governmental entities can be integrated into project activities, as they will likely be the main consumers and conduits of research and can be important supporters of ideas generated by non-governmental actors. GoR entities may benefit from improved skills in such topics as defining research questions, developing RFPs and research contracts, supervising research contracts, evaluating proposals and research quality, etc. One goal may be to

achieve consensus between government and civil society organizations on what a good policy paper or proposal should contain and how it should be presented.

ORGANIZATIONAL RESEARCH CAPABILITIES

The following are summaries of the information collected with respect to the organizations assessed in this report. The actual self-assessments and interview notes of the authors of the report are included in the project files.

Center for Conflict Management (CCM) of the National University of Rwanda

Organizational Mission/Purpose

The CCM is an institute of the National University of Rwanda that focuses on conflict studies; genocide studies and prevention; Rwandan post -conflict processes for socio-political development; and peace and security studies in Africa's Great Lakes region. Its primary activities are research, publication, and advocacy though it is also a teaching and degree granting institute and engages in a wide variety of outreach and training activities in its areas of concern. Participating in policy dialogue and influencing public policy are among its primary objectives.

CCM's mission is to be a center of excellence for research and training in prevention and positive transformation of conflicts. It acts as a center of reference in Rwanda, the Great Lakes Region and beyond by addressing the knowledge gap in the fields of genocide, peace and conflict studies, and post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation. This is done through policy research, teaching and community services.

Staffing

As an institute of the National University of Rwanda, CCM is staffed by academics and professional researchers who have some familiarity with most empirical research techniques and represent a variety of disciplines. CCM's full time academic staff includes three professors, one associate professor, three post-doctoral candidates and four Masters students in Peace and Conflict Studies.

Land-related Research

CCM views land issues primarily through the lens of conflict resolution and genocide studies. Land is only one aspect of its research agenda. In its self-assessment, CCM states that its research agenda would focus on managing land conflicts in the post-genocide era.

Two senior members of the CCM staff – Charles Gasarasi and Herman Musahara - have a demonstrated interest in land issues and have carried out well-received research on land topics. Both are NUR faculty members. Some of their joint and individual research papers include:

- Gasarasi, Charles and Herman Musahara. *The Land Question in Kibungo Province: A Research Report*. Universite Nationale du Rwanda: Centre de Gestion des Conflits. 2004. This publication is available only in paper at various academic libraries.
- Gasarasi, Charles and Herman Musahara. The Land Question in Western Province: A Research Report. Universite Nationale du Rwanda: Centre de Gestion des Conflits. 2004. This publication is available only in paper at various academic libraries.
- Musahara, Herman. Improving Tenure Security for the Rural Poor: Rwanda: Country Case Study. UNFAO. LEP (Legal Empowerment for the Poor) Working paper #7. 2006. (<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/010/k0784e/k0784e00.pdf>)
- Musahara, Herman and Chris Huggins. "Land reform, land security and post-conflict reconstruction: A case study of Rwanda." From the ground up: Land rights conflicts and peace in Sub-Saharan Africa. Ed. Huggins, C. and J. Clover. African Center for Technical Studies, African Security Analysis Program. June 2005.
- Musahara, Herman. "Implications of the Ongoing Land Reform on Sustainable Rural Development and Poverty Reduction in Rwanda." International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 7-10 March 2006. Conference Paper. This paper is a product of a short term consultancy work supported by FAO for the Ministry of Lands, Environment Forestry, Water and Mines of Rwanda. After the draft was produced, a workshop to incorporate views of stakeholders on land reform in Rwanda was convened in Kigali on 20th January 2006.

Research Methods

The research methods used in studies the author was able to locate are primarily qualitative, including cases studies, literature reviews, and review and analysis of existing socio-economic data from prior studies or government sources. Apparently, some original data was collected through survey research for several papers co-authored by Gasarasi and Musahara, but we were unable to confirm the technical quality of those studies as they are currently available only from the authors or in paper format in academic libraries that were not accessible to the assessment team. Limited availability of research papers appears to be a moderate problem in Rwanda that the project will seek to overcome by collecting relevant materials when opportunities are presented and through direct requests to authors when possible. One paper presented by Musahara included a survey of 70 households which, by the available description, appears not to be statistically rigorous.

Quality of Research

The quality of written work on land issues that we were able to locate is generally good, showing good grasp of issues and good analytical capabilities. These are primarily case studies and legal-historical analyses which are informed by small focus groups and key-

person interviews, rather than larger-scale surveys. A household survey performed for one study was not scientifically designed and too small to have statistical power. We were unable to draw any conclusions on the quality of several larger data collection studies because the papers were not available to us.

Advocacy Activities

CCM engages in conferences, workshops and seminars, participation in community educational activities and development of research designed to inform the field of peace, security and governance studies. Its Research Department “works to provide regional researchers, decision makers, and different agents with findings that helps them in their daily activities regarding peace, security and governance studies.”

CCM reports that its Department of Community Services focuses on community development activities in conflict resolution such as:

- Bringing together community actors to create a space for strategic thinking on the challenges of political organizing for community leaders;
- Sharing and transferring practical, organizational and personal empowerment skills to aspiring community leaders;
- Supporting staff with gender sensitive organizing and imparting technical skills to design action plans and carry out conflict management activities;
- Producing a handbook on ethics, values and resources for community leaders.

HAGURUKA

Organizational Mission/Purpose

Haguruka is a membership association of 68 CSOs and individuals. Its main purpose is “to defend the rights of women and children and contribute to the creation of a society where children, women and men’s rights are equal and respected for a sustainable development.” Its main activities include promotion and protection of women’s and children’s rights using international and national legal frameworks and policies, research and advocacy, capacity building for members and partners, social mobilization of communities, and provision of psycho-social, legal and judiciary services to communities in close collaboration with relevant partners and stakeholders.

Objectives of Haguruka include:

- Promoting equal rights and duties for both genders according to the Universal Declaration of Human rights (UDHR), the international conventions and pacts ratified by Rwanda and the Rwandan legislation;
- Promoting the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Children (CRC);
- Taking an active part in the eradication of all forms of discrimination against women;

- Supporting activities which help women to be aware of their rights, duties and role in society;
- Researching, analyzing, informing and publicizing the deep causes of problems encountered by girls, women and children so that appropriate solutions can be found; and
- Advocating in favor of women and children before influential groups, political leaders and agencies of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Staffing

Haguruka is governed by a General Assembly, Board of Directors and a National Executive Secretariat. The National Executive Secretariat consists of the National Executive Secretary, a Finance and Administration Department, and a Program Coordination Department (focused on the promotion and protection of women and children's rights). Haguruka has five branches, each having its own of lawyers, psycho-social counselors and volunteer paralegals. Haguruka staff consists of:

- Twelve lawyers with expertise in carrying out legal assistance, lobbying and advocacy on land rights and other laws;
- Five Branch Managers corresponding to 5 regional offices;
- Four project officers;
- One program coordinator;
- One National Executive Secretary.

Haguruka also has a staff member in charge of the Monitoring and Evaluation of its projects. The staff, either directly or with consultants, has some familiarity with most research tools, including surveys, focus groups, case studies and in-depth interviewing, but the organization concedes in its self-assessment that technical research capabilities are limited and that this is an area with which they have little experience.

Land-related Research

Research generally is a secondary activity of Haguruka, and the organization focuses primarily on its delivery of legal and community organizing services.

Haguruka approaches land issues from the perspective of women's and children's rights, and is primarily concerned with issues of land and gender. It has undertaken a study (2003) on the institution of cohabitation/common law marriage in Rwanda and how it affects women's rights to land and property:

- Recherche Sur Le Concubinage Au Rwanda, Haguruka: Kigali, November 2003 (<http://www.hagaruka.org.rw/concubinage.pdf>). Although this study was done by a consultant, it suggests that Haguruka possesses the capacity to commission and manage large studies that are used to inform their advocacy activities.

The research questions are well formulated. The choice of the study population is purposive and linked to the interventions of Haguruka. The problem statement is clear and is consistent with the research questions. Nevertheless, the conceptual

framework is limited to the definition of key concepts and does not inform the reader about assumptions, expectations, and theories that support or inform the research.

This is primarily a quantitative survey. Whereas the choice of study areas is purposive based on complaints registered by Haguruka, the survey respondents are randomly sampled. The sample is satisfactory to inform the objective of the study. The study was carried out by trained enumerators and supervisors and included a pre-test of the questionnaire before data was collected from the study sample.

The survey research was enhanced by qualitative data collection through focus group discussion and individual interviews with key informants and local authorities. While there are some methodological limitations, there is a good combination of data collection techniques to properly inform the study objectives.

Data analysis is mainly descriptive. Limited use is made of advanced descriptive statistics such as measuring the central tendency, discrepancy, and comparison of means.

It has also done a study of Law 22/99 (2004) relating to matrimonial rights. Both of these studies focus on land rights in particular. The organization has not undertaken a significant research project for the past five years. At this time it is interested in pursuing research on the nature of cases/land disputes registered by the RNRA and developing a framework for conflicts resolution, an objective that overlaps with the LAND project.

Research Methods

Haguruka claims some familiarity with data collection techniques including surveys, focus groups and key person interviews. However, since there have been no significant research projects for the past five years, that claim is difficult to verify. The survey done for the *Recherche Sur Le Concubinage Au Rwanda*, cited above, appears to be professionally done, but was done by outside consultants under Haguruka supervision.

Haguruka would value further training in research methodologies, data collection and analysis techniques, advocacy techniques, and community mobilization methods. The organization would like to carry out research on the nature of land cases registered by the RNRA so that a framework for conflicts resolution could be put in place.

Quality of Research

There is insufficient recent research product to assess Haguruka's current capabilities. The study *Recherche Sur Le Concubinage Au Rwanda* appears to have been well received and apparently reflects a professional research design and analysis. Indications are that this large and professionally designed survey was a well-regarded effort that produced statistically reliable baseline data on the status of co-habitation (common law marriage, "concubinage") in Rwanda, and the study is frequently cited.

Advocacy Activities

Haguruka is particularly qualified in advocacy activities and has extensive experience in the tools of advocacy and exerting influence on the national dialogue on women's and children's rights. It is highly experienced in tools of communications and media and claims experience and expertise in most communications tools, including electronic media, research and policy notes, roundtables and seminars, and community organization.

Haguruka collaborates closely with the GoR at the central and local levels, participating in the Child Rights working group and Child Protection sub-working group. It was elected to be the Host organization of the Child Rights Civil Society Coalition in Rwanda for 2011. Government institutions that Haguruka collaborates with include the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Health, National Human Rights Commission, and Ministry of Internal Security. Haguruka has also collaborated with national and international NGOs, including the Global Fund, Cordaid, Care International, Save the Children, OXFAM and UNICEF.

IMBARAGA (La Fédération des Agriculteurs et Eleveurs du Rwanda)

Organizational Mission/Purpose

Imbaraga is an advocacy organization currently registered as the Rwanda Farmers Federation. It is an apex organization representing farmers in Rwanda. Its membership is currently about 27,600 small scale farmers grouped into different commodity based associations or groups. Its organizational structure includes:

- Farmer groups composed of 25 to 30 farmers
- Basic sections which comprise between 10 and 15 farmer groups
- 24 “Antenna” (three to five basic sections at district level)
- Four Regions of five to seven Antennas, and
- The National Federation which is composed of all Regions

The main mission of Imbaraga is “to promote and safeguard the social, economic and political interests of its member farmers and to professionalize farmers to become entrepreneurs and competitive in socio-economic exchanges.” Interests of the organization include among others:

- Rights to land, to cultivate crops and /or raise livestock of their choice, and to infrastructure;
- The right to sell their products at a remunerative price which will enable them to ensure their welfare and become more competitive;
- The right to information, skills and training on best farming practices; and
- The right to participate in formulating policies and making decisions on farming issues as well as farmers' concern.

Staffing

Imbaraga has a technical team of 52 employees working in different districts or provinces and at the national level. Staff skills and training emphasize technical agricultural subjects, agricultural development, farm management, and agricultural markets. Staff is mostly experienced and knowledgeable agricultural technicians and agri-businessmen, but not research professionals. Their main expertise is provision of agricultural extension services.

In its self-assessment Imbaraga expressed the need for training different levels of Imbaraga staff on lobbying and advocacy. It is also seeking financial support for developing advocacy plans, policy analysis, reporting and documentation.

Land-related Research

Imbaraga's research is typically carried out in connection with its lobbying and advocacy priorities and is oriented toward position papers and policy notes. In the past several years, about two to four percent of its budget has been devoted to research-type activities, but little or none of this has been empirical research on socio-economic issues related to land.

The research output of Imbaraga consists largely of policy notes and action plans relating to its advocacy activities. Examples can be found at <http://amis.minagri.gov.rw/content/imbaraga-la-f%C3%A9d%C3%A9ration-des-agriculteurs-et-eleveurs-du-rwanda>. Studies equivalent to the high level empirical research promoted by the LAND project have not been located. The organization also produces several technical manuals and guides on practical agricultural topics.

Topics on which Imbaraga would like to pursue research, but lacks the resources to pursue, include current soil status (soil structure, nutrient content and type of fertilizer needed as a response); the plight of landless households and those holding below one acre; and socio-economic surveys on the outcomes of land consolidation.

Research Methods

Imbaraga's skills are largely in training and producing training materials on practical and technical issues of agricultural development and farm management, not in evidence-based policy research. However, it does seek to influence policy on behalf of its members' interests. Materials used for this type of advocacy activity are developed mostly informally through interactions with its very large membership and consultations with its regional offices. Typically, after discussing current land issues in its membership workshops or meetings, reports or policy notes and proposals are developed. This work is mostly based on focus group discussions and informal polling of the organization's membership, rather than the type of formal, evidence-based research contemplated by the LAND project.

Quality of Research

Imbaraga has not produced enough evidence-based research of the type contemplated by the LAND project to evaluate its experience or capabilities. If Imbaraga were to engage in such research its assets would include:

- A large national membership of around 27,000;
- Close contact with grassroots members and the ability to quickly organize workshops, roundtables and focus groups;
- Significant project implementation experience which might be enhanced by training in M&E techniques;² and
- Technical expertise in agriculture and agricultural markets.

Advocacy Activities

The focus of Imbaraga's advocacy is mainly land tenure, land expropriation, land management, and other issues of direct concern to farmers. Imbaraga's advocacy activities include:

- Organizing membership round tables and workshops to debate and discuss issues and challenges of land management, agriculture and livestock;
- Organizing sensitization/awareness meetings and trainings to encourage members to participate actively in government policy, program conception and monitoring;
- Organizing meetings and contacts with local administrations to address farming issues;
- Production of documents and action plans for lobbying and advocacy.

The organization is particularly interested in advocacy on behalf of gender issues in the land and agricultural sectors. Policy notes and action agendas developed by IMBARAGA through its membership events are also submitted to appropriate policy makers. The resources used in its advocacy activities are donated by different donors, partners and members.

Imbaraga cooperates with a wide range of international and domestic partners and research networks, including: Agriterra, Oxfam, Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), Agricultural Innovation Triangle, CONCERN Rwanda, the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation, Réseau des Citoyens-Network (RCN), *Confederation des Associations des Producteurs Agricoles*

² IMBARAGA engages with the Government of Rwanda in carrying out several important agricultural development projects:

- Imbaraga assists to implement the Crop Intensification Program (CIP) started in late 2009 in Musanze and Burera Districts. This program aims to increase the production and productivity of cereals (maize and wheat) in above-mentioned districts. Imbaraga provides services to assist in the implementation of this government's program, including sensitizing farmers on land use consolidation and use of improved agricultural practices.
- The PROFADEL project is also implemented by Imbaraga as a member of the Civil Society Platform under the supervision of Ministry of Local Government. The project is implemented in three districts: Rutsiro, Ngorero and Nyanza. It aims to enhance the skills of local authorities and communities in the elaboration and implementation of the District Development Plan.

pour le Développement (CAPAD-Burundi), and KIT-Amsterdam (Royal Tropical Institute).

Institute for Legal Practice and Development (ILPD)

Organizational Mission/Purpose

The Institute of Legal Practice and Development (ILPD) is a part of the Rwanda state university system. It serves as a national and regional center of reference for:

- 1) Practical legal training, and;
- 2) Research and development of the law, in three languages (English, French & Kinyarwanda and three legal traditions (common law, civil law & African law).

Its mission is to contribute to the development of justice in Rwanda and the region by offering initial professional training to persons holding a bachelor's degree in law, and by offering postgraduate programs for judges, prosecutors, lawyer, bailiffs, notaries, etc. to bring their competencies up to international standards. The main objective of ILPD is to provide practical legal education to lawyers at the start of their career as judges, prosecutors or lawyers as well as to already serving legal professionals.

Staffing

At this time ILPD has a staff of about seven legal professionals capable of doing research. It does not currently employ staff in other socio-economic disciplines or specializing in research methods.

The Assistant Rector for Academic Affairs, Professor Nick Huls, is a Professor of Socio-Legal Studies at the University of Rotterdam and Leiden University in The Netherlands. Although he may possess expertise in socio-economic and evidence-based analysis of legal topics, there is no evidence that ILPD is carrying out such research.

Land-related Research

ILPD has not engaged in land-related research, but rather focuses primarily on issues of rule of law and access to justice.

Examples of other research done under ILPD auspices include:

- Havermann, Roelf. The Rule of Law in Rwanda: Prospects and Challenges. ILPD. Kigali. April 2012. A review of the literature and historical/analytical study of the development of rule of law in Rwanda, using Rwanda's scoring on standardized international indicators of rule of law as a basis of discussion.
- Gender and Domestic Relations. ILPD/USAID Women's Legal Rights Initiative-Rwanda. Kigali. 2006. A course syllabus and case studies relating to women's rights under laws of domestic relations.

Research Methods

Research is limited at this time to qualitative methods, such as legal and regulatory analysis, case studies, comparative law, literature review, etc. ILPD has limited experience with quantitative methods and research design. ILPD management acknowledges that it would have to outsource for quantitative research expertise. ILPD has an ongoing relationship with the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands and is conducting a joint seminar with the University in the fall of 2012 on legal research and impact analysis.

Quality of Research

Legal/analytical research carried out by ILPD is of high quality, but it is not empirical research that produces new data. Instead, it relies on existing analyses and research.

Advocacy Activities

Advocacy is not a main activity of ILPD, though it will support advocacy by others through research if the opportunity arises. Advocacy activities are limited to judicial reform and development.

Institute of Research and Dialogue for Peace (IRDP)

Organizational Mission/Purpose

The Institute of Research and Dialogue for Peace “aims at bringing about a sustainable peace in the post genocide context.” The main purpose of the institute is to engage the Rwandan population and key stakeholders in the search for solutions to peace building challenges related to governance and the fight against poverty and to encourage social cohesion for lasting peace. Its main activities include research and advocacy.

Staffing

IRDP employs qualified researchers in various areas, including governance, law, sociology, agronomy, psychology, economics, and communications. IRDP has a mandate to carry out research on a wide range of topics regarding peace building in Rwanda, of which land is only a small part. IRDP acknowledges in its self-assessment that to carry out research on land it would need external support from consultants with specific knowledge of land issues.

Land-related Research

IRDP states that up to eighty percent of its budget is devoted to research and advocacy activities, but it has only recently done land-related research.

In 2012 IRDP created a “reflection group” composed of Rwandan intellectual figures to work as a “think tank” to examine issues that were raised during the organization’s research-debate process from 2009 to 2010. The reflection group was divided in three subgroups one of which worked on land issues in Rwanda, focusing on the following study points:

- Historic context of the land issue;

- Analysis of land law, policies and programs;
- Current land-related issues: practices, population's perceptions, expropriations, land scarcity.

IRDP's sub-group working on land issues has visited sites subject to expropriations and carried out an in-depth analysis of the land law reforms since 2005. The results of this analysis were presented to a forum made up of Members of Parliament, representatives of the Rwanda Natural Resources Authority, the media, and members of Civil Society, all of whom contributed to drawing a broader picture of the issue. This process has resulted in what IRDP refers to as a "scientific" article that will be published and widely disseminated to decision makers. This will be followed by media interventions during which members of the sub- group will interact with government officials and the population. We were unable to obtain this work and are therefore incapable of commenting on its methodology or quality.

Other IRDP research reports in areas other than land include:

- Pillars and challenges to peace, 17 years after the genocide, as seen by Rwandans. IRDP: Kigali, 2011. This study focuses on "current political, economic and social challenges to peace, as well as pillars of unity to be consolidated." Funding for the study was provided by SIDA, USAID, and the European Union. Tools used in the research include a review of administrative records, "participatory research" (see discussion below), key stakeholder interviews, and focus group discussions.
- Citizen participation in democratic governance in Rwanda. IRDP: Kigali, 2010. This report was also not found on the IRDP website or elsewhere on the Web. The study deals with citizens' role in the design and implementation of laws, programs and policies; survey research; review of administrative records, key stakeholder interviews; focus group discussions.
- Identité ethnique et cohésion sociale au Rwanda: Analyse critique des Défis politiques et Socioéconomiques. IRDP/Interpeace: Kigali, 2010. (<http://www.interpeace.org/index.php/publications/catview/8-publications/11-rwanda>). There is no English version available on the Web. This research report by IRDP addresses the question of ethnic identity and social cohesion in Rwanda. It critically analyzes the political and social challenges for social cohesion in Rwanda. The report presents the results of consultations with more than 2,256 Rwandans that were conducted in 2009-2010.

Research Methods

Typically IRDP research is in the form of position papers and policy notes based on national forums organized around specific issues. These position papers include policy analysis and proposals for legal amendments or new programs or policies, but limited

amounts of original research or quantitative data. They rely largely on testimony, anecdote and expert opinion.

As seen in the study entitled *Pillars and Challenges to Peace, 17 Years after the Genocide, as seen by Rwandans*, cited above, IRDP make use of a process of “participatory research” which is in effect a large scale program of focus group discussions or, as described by IRDP, “debates.” The study employed over 40 focus groups discussions. Planning and implementation of the focus groups appears to have followed what are considered to be best practices, including careful sampling of geographic areas (randomly chosen sectors in rural areas) and careful purposive sampling of participants; pre-prepared and uniform focus group agendas addressing key research questions designed on the basis of literature review and key person interviews; and indigenous moderators. The entire program was under the supervision of a consultative body of research experts who validated the methodology and the data analysis. The study asserts that the data was analyzed using a software program, suggesting that an attempt was made to code and quantify the qualitative opinion data collected in the focus groups, but the study does not provide details that would allow a critical analysis of how that was done. The study does not summarize the results of the focus groups, for example by summarizing the data with respect to the individual focus group agenda questions, and only occasionally supports its argument and conclusions by reference to the data collected.

Several frequently cited IRDP reports (See, for example, *Identité ethnique et cohésion sociale au Rwanda: Analyse critique des Défis politiques et Socioéconomiques*, and *Citizens Participation in Democratic Governance in Rwanda*, cited above) involve large, professionally designed and implemented surveys.

Quality of Research

Most of IRDP’s research is directed towards its advocacy needs and in keeping with its emphasis on “participatory action research.” An external evaluation of the IRDP program in 2011 said:³

The IRDP Program – though not primarily geared towards an academic understanding of conflict dynamics in Rwanda and despite its reliance on story-telling as a basis of knowledge creation *and the corresponding alleged lack of analytical rigor* – has made a valuable contribution, in particular through its two Country Notes (produced in 2003 and 2011, respectively), which address the sources and actors of conflict and the pillars of peace, as seen through the eyes of ordinary people. (*Emphasis supplied.*)

At the same time, IRDP is one of the few organizations that has demonstrated familiarity with large and statistically robust surveys. Its study on citizen participation in governance entailed a scientifically designed survey sample of sufficient size to produce reliable statistical results. The quality of the study design and the data analysis and presentation

³ Meijer, G. & T. Bangwanabusa. External Evaluation of the IRDP/Interpeace Rwanda Peacebuilding Program: 2009-2011. Kigali. October 19, 2011.

are good. The study provides valuable and reliable baseline data on issues of participation. The study *Identité ethnique et cohésion sociale au Rwanda: Analyse critique des Défis politiques et Socioéconomiques*, cited above, also apparently entails a large and scientifically designed survey.

Advocacy Activities

IRDP's main work is advocacy. Its advocacy activities include:

- *Advocacy for implementation of recommendations that stem from IRDP's research through steering committees.* The steering committees are ad hoc bodies that are created to facilitate the process of advocacy to ensure the implementation of recommendations. The aim is to obtain a change in attitudes or adoption of policies taking into account recommendations from IRDP research. In consultation with the IRDP and according to the particularity of each recommendation, members of steering committees decide on advocacy strategies. These may include personal visits to politicians and senior technicians at their workplace, production of documents that contain advocacy messages for policy makers, development of short documents published in the media (newspapers and radio), and continuous and consistent organization of debates on recommendations from research findings.
- *Use of information and communication technology.* IRDP makes extensive use of the media, particularly radio programs and increasingly television with the aims of promoting participation and commitment of the general public in the dialogue process, informing as many people as possible about program developments, and disseminating the results of its research activities.

Institut d'Enseignement Supérieur de Ruhengeri (INES)

Organizational Mission/Purpose

INES is a private institution of higher learning created in 2003 by the Ruhengeri Catholic Diocese in cooperation with other partners. It is based in Musanze District, Northern Province. Its mission is to contribute -- through the interaction between civil society, private sector and public sector -- to national and regional development by providing specialized higher education enhanced by research, in order to create competitive enterprises and well paid employment.

Staffing

INES has departments of Law, Land Survey and Land Administration and Management. Its surveying department, which overlaps with the Land Management and Training Center, has nine staff with expertise in surveying, remote sensing, geodesy, land administration, and geographic information systems (GIS). Three faculty members hold PhDs. There are four faculty members in the law department, one with a PhD, who have expertise in human rights, domestic relations and conflict management. There is one PhD-level statistician with expertise in agricultural statistics.

Land-related Research

While INES apparently has significant research capabilities in some areas of land research, we were unable to locate any specific research studies.

From the available information and INES' response on the self-assessment it is possible to say that most INES research would be in the realm of practical, applied research to guide implementation of technical projects, rather than socio-economic research designed to inform land policy. For example, INES -Ruhengeri was recently contracted by Rwanda Transportation Development Authority to participate in demarcation of 1,500 kilometers of national and district roads. INES has also developed a range of partnerships with different government institutions in the areas of INES programs, including Rwanda Governance Board, Rwanda Agricultural Board, Rwanda Biomedical Center, Rwanda Bureau of Standards, Rwanda Housing Authority, and the Task Force on Irrigation and Mechanization.

INES assets with respect to land research may include:

- INES has developed a Land Management Research and Training Center (LMRTC) with close connection to the Eastern Africa Land Administration Network (EALAN), currently chaired by INES. The main purpose of the center is to build capacities in land administration through research and training. During the planning of the LMRTC, the following areas of research were identified as the targets of its future research:
 - Land Suitability Studies
 - Women's Access to Land
 - Customary Land Tenure and its Aftermath in a Changing Social-Economic Environment
 - Land Tenure and Land Administration Systems and their Effect on the Availability of Property Development Finance
 - Land Registration
 - Large-scale Land Acquisition
- INES is involved in a food security project which promotes three main sectors: (1) seed cleaning and production, (2) land management, and (3) agricultural statistics. The project is expected to build INES capacities and promote tools for research and outreach in order to transform INES-Ruhengeri into a center of knowledge and technology transfer.
- INES has received a grant of two million five hundred thousand Euros for long-term capacity building for its Department of Land Survey and opening of a Department of Land Administration and Management. International institutions involved in the funding of these activities include: the Department for International Development (DFID), the Dutch Embassy, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), and the European Union.

Research Methods

We have been unable to locate any research studies undertaken on land by INES staff or faculty. In its self-assessment INES confirms its interest in strengthening its capabilities to conduct applied research in order to solve land issues and provide evidence for policies related to land, but acknowledges a need to upgrade staff skills in research and research proposal elaboration that would enable staff to develop winning research proposals.

Quality of Research

We were unable to locate any research studies on land to enable us to assess their quality. Apparently, they would have to be obtained directly from the authors or the university.

INES publishes the INES Scientific Journal, a periodical that serves as an outlet for research produced by INES faculty and others. Some details for the INES Scientific Journal can be found on the web at <http://www.ines.ac.rw/ines%20scientific%20journal.html>, but the journal articles are not available on-line.

Advocacy Activities

INES is an educational institution and not primarily an advocacy organization. Its activities are better characterized as technical assistance than advocacy. INES provides technical assistance to both public and private institutions in the community and includes among its outreach programs a legal clinic, statistical center, language center, biotechnology laboratories, GIS and surveying laboratories, and an entrepreneurship incubation center.

At the same time INES is an applied science and research institution with close connections to the surrounding community and to issues of local economic development. INES programs are tailored to community needs and emphasize the needs of local industry and service to the community. INES conducts consultancies in law, land tenure, biotechnology, and good governance. It also offers seminars, workshops and conferences with experts from developed countries.

National University of Rwanda (NUR)

Organizational Mission/Purpose

The National University of Rwanda is a state university with the main missions of undergraduate and graduate education; research; and publication. Faculty members of NUR presently conduct a good deal of the high level research in Rwanda either for their own research purposes and academic advancement or as advisors to government agencies, international donors and CSOs. Academic staff from NUR appears to be a primary source of technical skills for research. The University is also a key sponsor of high level research publications and research-oriented conferences and workshops.

Staffing

The NUR has a relatively large faculty of trained social scientists and can coordinate the resources to use sophisticated research tools. NUR has faculties in a broad range of

disciplines, including law, medicine, social sciences and agriculture. Research is carried out across all of these disciplines and research is an important element in academic advancement. NUR faculty typically possess the highest credential in their fields.

Land-related Research

There is presently no university department or institute that focuses on land issues. Land appears to be a cross-cutting topic and some work is done by a number of academic centers or departments in the NUR. The Center for Conflict management, reviewed above, is one such center. Academic departments – e.g. Geography, Agriculture, Law, and Economics – may cover land issues occasionally in their research. Individual faculty members in the various departments pursue their own research and may have their own research clients among international donors and government agencies. Separate NUR units engaged in land research and advocacy include the Center for Environment, Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development; Center for Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing; Faculty of Agriculture; Faculty of Science (Geography and Biology departments); Faculty of Economics and Management; Center for Conflict Management; and the Consultancy Bureau.

The Center for GIS and Remote Sensing works primarily on issues of land administration, cadastre and land registration, but individual members of the department may look at socio-economic issues as well. Examples of recent land-related research produced under NUR auspices include:

- Uwayezu, E. and Theodomir Mugirenza. Land Policy Reform in Rwanda and Land Tenure Security for all Citizens: Provision and Recognition of Women's Rights over Land. FIG Working Week 2011, Bridging the Gap between Cultures, Marrakech, Morocco, 18-22 May 2011. Conference presentation. http://www.fig.net/pub/fig2011/papers/ts04g/ts04g_uwayezu_mugiraneza_4914.pdf). Both authors are affiliated with the Center for GIS and Remote Sensing.
- Bizosa, Alfred R. Stakeholders Involvement in the Implementation of Land Reform in Rwanda. NUR/Center for Environment, Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development. March 23, 2011.
- Habyarimana, Jean-Bosco. The Impact of Land Reform Implementation on Sustainable Use of Natural Resources. NUR/Center for Environment, Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development. June, 2011.

NUR has several important assets to support land research activities, including:

- *Directorate of Research*. The NUR maintains a Directorate of University Research with a staff of five which serves as a focal point to attract research funding and supervise research contracts. This is not a monopolistic entity and faculty is free to pursue their own research and consulting. The Directorate of

Research is responsible for the Rwanda Journal and an annual International Conference on topics of primary interest in Rwanda.

- *Consultants Bureau.* The NUR maintains a consultancy bureau which will respond to inquiries on the availability of faculty for research and consulting assignments.
- *Rwanda Journal.* The Rwanda Journal is a peer-reviewed journal for a wide range of NUR research on Rwandan topics. It is published seven times per year and most issues are thematic. One issue includes the main papers from the annual International Conference sponsored by NUR.
- *Annual International Research Conference.* Annual conferences are held around particular salient themes in Rwanda to highlight NUR and other research. The 2012 conference on Sustainable Economic Development and Governance is scheduled for December.
- *Center for GIS and Remote Sensing.* The NUR Department of Geography sponsors a Center for GIS and Remote Sensing that provides a good deal of technical research and consulting to the national cadastre and land registry. Faculty members in the Center and the Geography Department are capable of working on a wide range of land issues and have particular expertise in spatial analysis.

Research Methods

While there are faculty members capable of doing high-level social science research, we have been unable to find much sophisticated empirical and quantitative research or original field research. It is possible that the lack of sophisticated evidence based research reflects lack of financial support for research, given that lack of resources is frequently cited in publications for the choice or limitations of the research methodologies employed. Some studies do try to use household surveys to collect data, but study designs and sizes lack rigor and sufficient size to be meaningful. Randomized sample selection is rare.

There is no department or institute in the university that specializes in research methods. There are departments of statistics, IT, etc., and the University Directorate of Research promotes and manages research by University faculty. However, faculty researchers are responsible for their own methodological designs and finding the appropriate specialists to carry them out.

While there are many proficient social scientists at NUR, there is room for upgrading skills through provision of training in cutting edge research techniques and in application of sophisticated research tools to the land sector. A high level training course in land issues and land research could be appropriate for interested faculty in various disciplines, including law, sociology, agriculture and economics.

Quality of Research

The research papers reviewed typically demonstrate relevance, familiarity with the literature and prior research, ability to formulate research questions and hypotheses, and good analytical capabilities. They typically also reflect knowledge of good research design, mainly because they are able to explain why compromises which depart from good design were necessary. Those explanations frequently cite a lack of available resources. The data collection techniques used are mostly focus groups and key person interviews, which are sometimes presented as surveys, but they are such only in the broadest sense.

Advocacy Activities

NUR is primarily a research entity and not an advocacy organization. NUR staff and faculty may provide support for advocacy through their research activities and frequently contract research. They also serve as advisors to government agencies and CSOs, and participate in roundtables, workshops and seminars designed to elicit public views and opinions on matters of public policy. Likewise, staff and faculty may occasionally be asked by government officials for opinions on matters of public policy.

LANDNET/RISD

Organizational Mission/Purpose

Landnet is a “network” of NGOs and CSOs with an interest in land reform matters. It serves as a coordinating body and clearinghouse for over 30 NGOs that have an interest in land issues. Among these are ActionAid Rwanda, Care International, Rwanda Women’ Network, Imbaraga, Haguruka, and the National University of Rwanda. Its mission is “to contribute to equitable and sustainable land reform through inclusive actions and processes.” The goal of Landnet Rwanda is to build and strengthen the capacity of Rwandan civil society to engage and dialogue with government, local leaders and donors on land policy and mainstreaming land issues in the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS) of the Government of Rwanda.

Staffing

Landnet works as a consortium of other organizations and is mostly dependent on those organizations to provide human resources. Research activities of Landnet appear to be done primarily by its member organizations and are typically published by the member organizations as well.

Landnet is operated by a full time staff of one person situated at the Rwanda Initiative for Sustainable Development (RISD), a NGO located in Kigali that also emphasizes land-related issues. Executive leadership is provided by the director of RISD, and most staffing resources are obtained as needed from volunteer activity of the member organizations. Accordingly, it is appropriate when assessing the capabilities of Landnet to look also at the capabilities of RISD.

Land-related Research

Landnet focuses primarily on issues of access to land and land tenure issues of vulnerable groups. It has done some minor research projects but would like to develop its skills and the skills of its members to do better research and advocacy. Its current research agenda includes:

- Monitoring of the Government's Land Tenure Regularization Programme (LTRP);
- Increasing public awareness;
- Information collection and documentation;
- Review of law and policies;
- Training of local leaders.

Research studies carried out under Landnet auspices or by Landnet members include:

- Experiences of women in asserting their land rights: the case of Bugesera District, Rwanda, Rwanda Women's Network: International Land Coalition: Kigali, 2011. http://www.landcoalition.org/sites/default/files/publication/956/WLR_5_RW_N.pdf. A study by the Rwanda Women's Network in cooperation with the International Land Coalition (ILC). The study used review of administrative records, a small household survey, key stakeholder interviews, case studies and focus group discussions to collect and analyze data on women's experience with access to land in one Rwandan province. This study was converted into a small policy brief that received wide distribution.
- Kairaba, Annie and James Dale Simons. Impact of the Land Reform on Land Rights and Economic Poverty Reduction of the Majority Rural and Especially Women Who Depend on Land for their Livelihoods, RISD: Kigali, 2011. http://www.risdrwanda.org/IMG/pdf/RISD_and_IS_report.pdf.) A study carried out by Rwanda Initiative for Sustainable Development in cooperation with the Netherlands IS Academy and funded by the Dutch Government. The study examines "the link between land governance, sustainable development and poverty alleviation." It compares the experiences of two adjoining Rwandan districts, one in which land title regularization had been completed and one in which it had not yet begun. The study developed research questions and key indicators used small household surveys, key stakeholder interviews, and reviews of administrative records.

Landnet assets of particular importance for land-related research include:

- Specializes in land issues;
- Member organizations have some research experience;
- Significant advocacy experience;
- Important voice in land issues - has the attention of government policy makers;

- National scope with member organizations working in different parts of Rwanda. With some training, may be able to mobilize research teams throughout Rwanda;
- Ability to collect monitoring and evaluation data through local organizations;
- Ability to organize focus groups.

Research Methods

Landnet member organizations most often use research tools such as discussions with local officials, focus groups, key informant interviews, gathering case study data, informal polling of their member organizations, gathering administrative data from RNRA and other local agencies involved in land reform.

Landnet members such as RISD and Rwanda Women Network have used small household surveys with non-random sample designs in research. Although these do not conform to rigorous standards for quantitative research, they nevertheless may contribute to some understanding of issues in particular geographic areas or among certain populations.

Quality of Research

The works cited above demonstrate good attempts to produce useful research despite constraints on resources, using as many supplementary sources of data as possible. While most of the research is case study oriented, small, purposive sample surveys and focus groups are sometimes used that strengthen the validity of findings. Yet, even this research has been carried out under the guidance of foreign consultants.

Although Landnet member organizations demonstrate familiarity with basic concepts of qualitative and quantitative data collection, additional resources and training would be needed to enable them to independently carry out strong empirical research, especially research employing state of the art social science methods. In its self-assessment, Landnet management acknowledges:

- Lack of ability to design and carry out sophisticated quantitative research among organization members;
- Lack of ability to interpret and use data among organization members; and
- Frequently poor quality of reports and other written policy work by members.

Advocacy Activities

Landnet's work is primarily focused on advocacy, "focusing and amplifying" the positions of its membership on land issues. It accomplishes this through dialogue with government, local events and community meetings, monitoring of implementation of ongoing policies, roundtable events among members, and review and comment on draft laws and policies.

Landnet reports working closely with the Rwanda Natural Resources Authority and other GoR agencies, including sponsoring joint workshops and carrying out joint research.

Legal Aid Forum

Organizational Mission/Purpose

Legal Aid Forum (LAF) is an umbrella organization of approximately 37 NGOs and supportive foreign donors and government agencies having an interest in delivery of justice and legal services to the poor. Many of its members are direct providers of legal aid. Its activities include direct representation of the poor, delivery of legal services, promotion of non-judicial mediation, and research and advocacy on legal services issues.

Staffing

LAF is operated by a Secretariat in Kigali with a staff of approximately ten. Most senior staff has legal training. There is no research staff with skills in study design, modeling, survey design, data collection, quantitative analysis, econometrics, statistics, or M&E. If needed these resources would be acquired from outside the organization. Staff resources are devoted primarily to the core activities of the organization, which are advocacy and delivery of legal services. There is no research department *per se*; rather, research is carried out as needed in furtherance of the organization's programs for advocacy, delivery of legal aid and increasing public awareness.

LAF has access to significant human resources among its membership for legal research and commentary, and these resources are national in scope. It can draw on legal expertise throughout the country to carry out studies or M&E. Staff members have some good recent experience in qualitative and quantitative research, M&E, and policy development, including experience in designing and implementing survey research.

To carry out specific land-related research LAF staff would need to develop greater substantive expertise in land issues, including better substantive understanding of the socioeconomic dimensions of land and land policy in order to expand their current legal understanding and approach.

Land-related Research

Research on access to justice is a subsidiary objective of the organization. Research on land issues *per se* is not presently a main focus of their research agenda, but land issues arise in their work on legal aid and also in their research on access to justice issues. LAF would like to further develop its involvement in land issues as it is a growing area of legal disputes.

Key research studies of the organization on issues other than land include:

- Monitoring of EDPRS Indicators in the Justice Sector, 2008-2009, LAF: Kigali, 2009. (available on LAF website; http://www.legalaidrwanda.org/en/publications/doc_details/9-monitoring-of-edprs-indicators-in-the-justice-sector-august-2008--january-2009). This study included a significant survey of a purposive sample (litigants and other justice sector participants) to track access to justice indicators of the first Rwanda Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy. Human resources of

its membership organizations were used to staff field teams. The study employs good data analysis and presentation and demonstrates an ability to define indicators and construct a research design to collect relevant data.

- Broadening Access to Justice in Rwanda: Analysis of the Opportunity for Public Interest Litigation, The Legal Aid Forum, Kigali – Rwanda, 2011;(available on LAF website; http://www.legalaidrwanda.org/en/publications/doc_details/51-broadening-access-to-justice-in-rwanda-analysing-the-opportunity-for-public-interest-litigation). The study used key stakeholder interviews, case studies. Legal analysis and international best practice research to argue for initiation of public interest litigation in Rwanda.
- Report on the Legal Aid Baseline and Needs Analysis Survey. A collaborative report of the LAF, Haguruka, Human Rights First, The NUR Legal Clinic, The Kigali Bar Association, Norwegian People's Aid, The Danish Institute for Human Rights, and The Ministry of Justice, LAF, Kigali, 2007 (available on LAF website; http://www.legalaidrwanda.org/en/publications/doc_details/11-a-report-of-the-legal-aid-baseline-and-needs-analysis-survey). The study employed a national survey of a purposive sample of citizens, legal aid providers and local government and justice sector officials. It also included focus group discussions and key stakeholder interviews. The research was done in cooperation with Ministry of Justice and with the aid of an international consultant to prepare the research design. However, member organizations staff carried out the field work.
- A study on *enforcement of legal judgments in Rwanda* was awaiting publication during the assessment period and was not yet available. This study was carried out with the cooperation of LAF members and comprises essentially anecdotal and case study research, including in-depth interviews with legal service providers, case analysis and some review of administrative data.

Research Methods

The available research reports demonstrate familiarity with a variety of research tools, including case analysis, legal analysis, key-stakeholder interviewing, focus groups, review of administrative data, polling of membership organizations, and survey research. The EDPRS study of 2008-2009 shows competence in defining program objectives and outputs, defining performance indicators, and collecting data on indicators through empirical research.

Quality of Research

Research studies demonstrate good facility with qualitative methods, as well as some survey research and other techniques, including key-stakeholder interviews and focus group discussions. Data in reports are very well presented in graphic and tabular formats. The EDPRS study is one of the few indicator-based M&E studies that the consultant

encountered during the assessment. It reflects a good understanding of M&E research design, data collection techniques, and the importance of collecting baseline data to assess change.

Advocacy Activities

LAF's main activities are delivering legal services to the poor and providing legal training. However, advocating for access to legal services by lower income people is also an objective of LAF. Among the advocacy activities employed by LAF are hosting national conferences to present findings of its research, engaging the GoR in the development of a national Legal Aid Policy, and participation in justice sector forums and stakeholder events. Most of LAF's research cited above is published and used as advocacy tools for policy discussions. LAF maintains a professionally designed website on which all of its policy papers and research can be accessed.

Ministry of Justice Office of Legislative Drafting

Organizational Mission/Purpose

The Ministry of Justice Office of Legislative Drafting prepares legislative and other acts (Presidential decrees, orders, regulations, etc.) upon request by the Cabinet, President and other agencies of GoR. In drafting legislation, draws on international best practice. The office also advises the GoR on best approaches to translate policy into legislation or other legal acts. The office carries out research on legislative developments among a number of reference countries, and primarily the East Africa Economic Community and the Commonwealth. This is mostly from a perspective of legislative drafting and the content of laws, but must inevitably touch on policy issues as the content of legislation is considered. As part of its due diligence the office is charged with investigating the views and positions of civil society and other stakeholders on legislative proposals.

This department must eventually see and sign off on all proposals for new or amended legislation. In preparing legislation the office carries out (1) research on best practice laws and experiences in other countries, in particular from East Africa and the Commonwealth countries, and (2) stakeholder communications and consultations.

Staffing

Under the Deputy Attorney General who leads the office there are eight lawyers, most at the Masters level of legal education, and eight translators. Each Rwandan law must be produced in all three official languages: Kinyarwanda, English and French. The office does not employ other specialists such as economists and social scientists.

Land-related Research

The Department does not do land related research *per se*. Research only pertains to laws or law modifications under active consideration, and is mostly limited to legal analysis and comparative law.

Research Methods

The office uses qualitative research methods, including legal research, key person interviews, requests for comments and suggestions, and occasionally gathering feedback through workshops and other *vis a vis* focus groups.

An interview with the Deputy Attorney General revealed that the office is in need of further training on legislative drafting, its core function. Of particular interest are trainings on the different legal drafting approaches employed by common and civil law countries. Rwanda is presently moving from a civil law to a mixed system, given that all of its important neighbors and trading partners are common law systems). It worked with the ILPD in preparing the legislative drafting diploma course conducted by ILPD in the fall of 2012.

Quality of Research

Actual research reports and memoranda of the office are mostly proprietary government documents and not generally available. A review of its work would require a special request.

Advocacy Activities

The Ministry of Justice does not engage in advocacy, nor does this office. Nevertheless, a Cabinet Instruction presently requires that before any proposed legislation may be submitted to the Cabinet for approval there must be stakeholder consultations and the Office of Legislative Drafting must demonstrate to the Cabinet that such consultations have occurred. The office does this in two ways: (1) workshops and other public events where invited CSOs are asked to participate and present ideas for development of the legislation, and (2) circulation of draft legislation among civil society organizations and other stakeholders with a request for comments and suggestions. Therefore, this office can be an important conduit for CSO policy proposals and recommendations. However, in general, the office does not initiate policy development and is not asked for policy advice except in the limited cases to understand how other countries are addressing the same policy issues in legislation and employing alternative legal approaches and instruments to implement policy.

National Institute of Statistics Rwanda (NISR)

Organizational Mission/Purpose

NISR is the Government of Rwanda's primary service for carrying out empirical research and generating national statistics. Created in 2005 and fully operational since 2007, it designs and implements government-sponsored demographic, socio-economic, and economic surveys. Its main mission is to respond to government needs for good statistical data for policy formulation and implementation, advise Ministries and other government agencies as well as local non-governmental organizations on design and implementation of survey research, and upgrade capabilities of government and local organizations to carry out data collection and analysis.

Surveys are carried out directly for the GoR and its Ministries upon request, and the institute will design and implement ad hoc survey research by request from government agencies if funding is provided, but is not permitted to accept contract work from private sector entities.

NISR is also charged with ensuring that all non-governmental organizations carrying out survey research that extends beyond one province submit to the institute a fully developed research proposal, including research objectives and design. The institute uses this review process to comment on and improve research design if needed. In addition, the Institute provides occasional workshops and trainings for both government and non-governmental organizations on research methodology, and will work with non-governmental organizations in designing national-level surveys. NISR will also consider requests from NGOs to incorporate subjects of interest in official NISR survey instruments.

Staffing

The institute presently has about 100 staff drawn from a range of disciplines, including statistics, demography, economics and other social science fields. Many have a Masters level of education, but a few have PhDs. The institute finds it necessary to outsource for high level, specialized technical skills even for carrying out its periodical national surveys, including sample design and statistical analysis. It uses both foreign consultants and consultants from the Rwandan universities. The Institute has very limited capabilities in data analysis or policy-oriented research, and it still needs to outsource for high-level technical skills in its core business, relying mostly on the universities for those skills. In an interview the Deputy Director of the Institute, expressed the following needs:

- More expertise in sampling and statistical analysis;
- Staff skills upgrading generally in survey research;

The organization has good familiarity with the fundamentals of research design, but would benefit from training in more sophisticated technical skills in research design and implementation. However, any such assistance would accrue to the benefit of the LAND agenda only indirectly if the institute were to in turn provide advice and guidance to local organizations conducting research on land.

Land-related Research

The NISR does not carry out land-related research specifically, but touches on some land issues in its periodic national surveys (e.g. Population and Housing Census, National Agricultural Survey, Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis). The institute's research output is comprised solely of recurring national surveys, which are generally available on its web site. It does not produce research reports other than the typical summaries of its descriptive surveys. The institute's periodic surveys include:

- National Demographic and Health Survey – five years
- Household Living Conditions Survey (Poverty) - five years
- Population and Housing Census – ten years

- Establishment Census (Business and Labor Skills) – 2011
- National Agricultural Survey – five years
- Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis – three years
- Capital Markets Survey

Research Methods

NISR methods are limited to surveys for generation of descriptive statistics.

Quality of Research

The institute is the most capable and experienced field data collection and management organization in Rwanda. Its research product, which is frequently done with the aid of foreign and domestic consultants, is of a high technical quality. The Institute limits itself to descriptive surveys and does not engage in sophisticated analytical research.

Advocacy Activities

The Institute is limited by its legal mandate to descriptive data collection; it does not engage in policy advocacy or analytical research.

Rwanda Law Reform Commission

Organizational Mission/Purpose

The recently created Rwanda Law Reform Commission (LRC) is an independent commission of the GoR with the mandate to study the entire body of Rwandan law and regulation, assess its effectiveness in terms of international and regional best practice, and propose reforms to legislation. It is not a legislative drafting shop as the Ministry of Justice Office of Legislative Drafting is. The LRC will become a key advisor to the GoR on most legislative proposals and also be tasked with implementing monitoring and evaluation of adopted legislation.

Staffing

The LRC has seven commissioners, including the chair and vice-chair, both appointed for five year terms. The current plan is to create working groups for separate areas of the law, each under the supervision of a commissioner. It may contribute to policy discussions and also serve as a conduit for ideas arising from civil society.

Staffing will include 12 legal experts, in addition to the commissioners. Legal expertise is required for staff members in the charter of the commission. The commission may employ other types of experts such as economists and social scientists beyond the 12 legal experts. However, this may depend on the availability of budgetary resources, and those will be limited in the short term. The LRC intends to outsource to local research organizations, including ILPD, IPAR and NUR, depending on their needs.

In an interview the Vice-Chairman of the LRC expressed the following needs.

- Improve research skills for staff;

- Broaden research skills of staff to include more socio-economic analytical capabilities, including regulatory impact analysis, cost benefit analysis, standard cost modeling, etc.;
- Broaden understanding of M&E techniques to help carry out its M&E obligations on new laws and regulations;
- More training on how to translate policy into draft legislation; and
- Improve communications skills.

Land-related Research

The LRC is only recently created and has no record of research reports at this time. It will likely only do or commission land-related research in connection with a program of legislative development or reform.

Research Methods

The LRC was too recently created to assess which research methods it employs. It is known that it has significant human resource capacity in legal and regulatory reform and legal research but is likely to lack staff skills in M&E and other socio-economic research. It is tasked with implementing monitoring and evaluation of laws and regulations, but the scope of that responsibility is yet to be defined.

Quality of Research

The LRC is only recently created and has no record of research reports at this time to enable assessment of the quality of research. Under its present action plan the first task of the commission is to review the entire corpus of Rwandan legislation from the perspective of international best practice, as determined by the Commission based on review of experience in developed countries and a peer group of countries in the region, and to make recommendations for reform. Its main research program and its research needs remain to be determined.

Advocacy Activities

The LRC is an advocacy organization. It may determine its own agenda and is authorized to advocate for legal development and reform. Its activities have not yet begun, but it anticipates a multi-faceted communications strategy emphasizing outreach to civil society and development of partnerships with national and international institutions.

The commission will be a leader in policy development as it pertains to legislative development and reform. It hopes to be a conduit for ideas from civil society, and intends to use its commission format to encourage dialogue through hearings, roundtables and workshops. It will be involved in M&E of laws and regulations. The LRC will build and maintain an interactive web-site dedicated to law reform and M&E, and a multi-component communications strategy to reach out to civil society.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

CCM/NUR

1. Gasarasi, Charles and Herman Musahara. The Land Question in Kibungo Province: A Research Report. Universite Nationale du Rwanda: Centre de Gestion des Conflits. 2004. This publication is available only in French and only in paper format at academic libraries which were inaccessible to the assessment team.
2. Gasarasi, Charles and Herman Musahara. The Land Question in Western Province: A Research Report. Universite Nationale du Rwanda: Centre de Gestion des Conflits. 2004. This publication is available only in French and only in paper format at academic libraries which were inaccessible to the assessment team.
3. Musahara, Herman. Improving Tenure Security for the Rural Poor: Rwanda Country Case Study. UNFAO. LEP (Legal Empowerment for the Poor) Working paper #7. 2006. (<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/010/k0784e/k0784e00.pdf>).

Abstract:

“This study questions whether external advice and resulting regulations for improving security of tenure for the poor actually can provide answers to problems of sustainable livelihoods, especially in terms of reducing specific forms of poverty, vulnerability and marginalization. In particular, it is questionable whether current land reform efforts in Rwanda can be expected to be efficient and effective in reducing poverty and promoting sustainable and pro-poor growth. The paper uses secondary data from recent land studies and a specific survey of 70 households to illustrate land issues in Rwanda as they relate to poverty. A conceptual frame is provided to support the argument that access to land is a broader issue than is usually perceived. Beyond access to natural resources, it also encompasses access to credit, technology and modern production conditions. Likewise, land reform cannot be confined to land redistribution alone. It should include agricultural organization and management – in other words, it should encompass agrarian reform.

The paper introduces evidence from recent studies and empirical data from a 70-household survey to illustrate that the current reform has limited capacity to address the problems of the poor and vulnerable. It is demonstrated that giving out titles through formalization will not provide a full answer to poverty and livelihood problems. The proposed land consolidation has not been elaborated well enough to prove it can offer a solution to land problems. Agricultural commercialization and professionalization will most likely alienate poor farmers. Gender has not been clearly mainstreamed in the land reform process and land disputes, a major form of insecurity, will not be eliminated by merely enacting a law.

For this case study existing literature on land tenure security and land reform with regard to Rwanda has been reviewed. Three levels of data analysis have been employed. First, data from two recent land surveys have been re-analyzed in light of the case study. These include the Land and Conflict Survey in Kibungo District (Gasarasi and Musahara, 2004) and the Land Study on Kibuye District (Gasarasi, 2005). A second level of analysis reviews three recent land reports that draw mainly on secondary data (Musahara and Huggins, 2005; Musahara, 2005; ICARRD, 2006)."

4. Musahara, Herman and Chris Huggins. "Land reform, land security and post-conflict reconstruction: A case study of Rwanda." From the ground up: Land rights conflicts and peace in Sub-Saharan Africa. Ed. Higgins, C. and J. Clover. African Center for Technical Studies, African Security Analysis Program. June 2005.

Abstract:

"This case study, based on [key person] interviews in Rwanda and an extensive review of secondary material, builds on ACTS' previous analysis, and examines the proposed land reforms as articulated in the policy. However, it does not attempt to be a comprehensive review of the land policy – more in-depth studies have already been conducted. Instead, it situates the policy and the process involved within the wider debates about governance and conflict resolution in the country. It examines some assumptions made in the policy, and essentially looks at the political aspects of questions which are often portrayed as purely 'technical' issues. We suggest that "policy implementation is more likely than not to be a process of policy interpretation"; and examine governance structures which are likely to guide this interpretation. Finally, some recommendations are offered on ways in which the land policy and law can best be implemented in order to assure the long-term growth and stability of the country, and mitigation of future conflict."

5. Musahara, Herman. "Implications of the Ongoing Land Reform on Sustainable Rural Development and Poverty Reduction in Rwanda." International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 7-10 March 2006. Conference Paper. The paper is a product of a short term consultancy work supported by FAO for the Ministry of Lands, Environment Forestry, Water and Mines of Rwanda. After the draft was produced, a workshop to incorporate views of stakeholders on land reform in Rwanda was convened in Kigali on 20th January 2006.

Haguruka

6. Recherche Sur Le Concubinage Au Rwanda, HAGARUKA: Kigali, November 2003 (<http://www.hagaruka.org.rw/concubinage.pdf>). This is a report of a large baseline survey on the institution of cohabitation/common law marriage in Rwanda and its effects on women's rights, including rights to land and property. It is a large and professionally implemented survey done by outside consultants under Hagaruka's supervision. Available only in French.

Abstract:

Objectifs de la recherche.

Cette étude a pour principaux objectifs de :

- constituer une base de données sur les couples vivant en concubinage;
- chercher les causes profondes de ces ménages de fait;
- préciser les conséquences de ces unions sur les concubins, sur leurs enfants, sur leur patrimoine et sur la communauté en général;
- déterminer les catégories de personnes vivant en ménages de fait;
- proposer des actions à mener afin de résoudre ce problème;
- constituer un outil de plaidoyer dans le sens du respect de la loi.

Approche méthodologique.

Pour atteindre les objectifs assignés à la recherche, une méthodologie de collecte de données a été retenue qui a fait l'objet de discussions suivies d'un accord entre HAGARUKA et la consultante.

La nouveauté du travail, son importance et son ampleur (il concerne l'ensemble du territoire national) nous ont amené à utiliser de façon concomitante deux méthodes d'enquête :

Une enquête quantitative basée sur l'utilisation de l'outil statistique et devant non seulement servir à la constitution d'une base de données, mais aussi à connaître les causes et conséquences du concubinage sur la population enquêtée.

Une enquête qualitative destinée à compléter les données recueillies et à approfondir, en cas de besoins ces données.

L'échantillonnage.

Il avait été déterminé à partir des critères suivants :

- 1 district ou ville par province soit 11 districts/villes, plus
- 8 districts de la mairie de la ville de Kigali soit un total de 19 districts/villes.
- 5 cellules par district/ville soit au total 95 cellules en raison de 100 ménages par cellule.

Ainsi, 9.500 ménages ont été retenus comme devant constituer l'échantillon. Ces ménages devaient être tous interviewés sans condition et sans restriction. Il se trouve que pour des raisons d'indisponibilité, seuls 97.5% de l'échantillon initial ont pu être touchés. Ce qui explique la différence de 241 ménages que l'on peut constater entre la taille de l'échantillon et le total de l'effectif (9.249 ménages) figurant dans le tableau 1.

ILDP

7. Havermann, Roelf. The Rule of Law in Rwanda: Prospects and Challenges. ILPD. Kigali. April, 2012. A review of the literature and historical/analytical study of the development of rule of law in Rwanda, using Rwanda's scoring on standardized international indicators of rule of law as a basis of discussion.

Abstract:

This report is the reflection of existing publications rather than new research on the rule of law in Rwanda. It does not aim to take a position in the debate about the rule of law in Rwanda. The first part (Part A) gives a short overview over the justice sector in Rwanda, its main institutions and actors, including some home-grown initiatives, as well as an impression of the context in which the justice sector has to be considered: history, politics, religion, and economics. The third part (Part C) presents an overview of how Rwanda scores on various Rule of Law Indicators and what these rule of law indicators tell us about the state of the justice sector and the rule of law in Rwanda. The results of this analysis should be read with some caution, in the sense that experts involved with rule of law indicators reject the notion that results generated by indicators are in themselves sufficient reasons for policy decisions or decisions to allocate funds, in part because indicators say nothing about causes. Part B of the report – positive trends and challenges – is, in comparison to Part C, a more qualitative description of some of these indicators, highlighting major topics that are generally considered as positive trends as well as issues that raise concerns. The report does not pretend to cover all aspects of the rule of law, let alone to cover them in depth. The report aims to identify the main positive trends and the main concerns in the rule of law as perceived by different stakeholders.

The selection of the main positive trends and concerns has been based on existing publications, as well as on a five-year experience of the author of the report working in the justice sector in Rwanda. As a final safeguard to see whether this selection indeed reflects the current state of the discussion, formal interviews have been held with about fifteen stakeholders with various backgrounds: national and international human rights organizations, diplomats, academics, and many more informal discussions with a multitude of actors within the justice sector of Rwanda.

Because the report aims to describe the discussion in the year 2011 about the rule of law in Rwanda, as much as possible, recent publications have been used (in general, not from before 2007) which refer to the current state of the rule of law rather than the past. Moreover, where possible, reports have been used that are based on first-hand knowledge and information, rather than reports quoting other documentation.

IRDP

8. Pillars and challenges to peace, 17 years after the genocide, as seen by Rwandans. IRDP: Kigali, 2011. This study focuses on “current political, economic and social challenges to peace, as well as pillars of unity to be consolidated.” Funding for the study was provided by SIDA, USAID, and the European Union. Tools used in the research include review of administrative records, key stakeholder interviews; and 40 well-designed focus group discussions conducted nationally (referred to by IRDP as “participatory research”).

9. Citizen participation in democratic governance. IRDP: Kigali, 2010. Assesses citizens' role in the design and implementation of laws, programs and policies. Review of administrative records, key stakeholder interviews; focus group discussions.

Abstract:

The following are the specific objectives of the study:

- To analyze the levels of representation, accountability and the relationship between the elected representatives and the voters on the one hand and the governance institutions (Local Administration, Parliament, Cabinet ...) on the other;
- To analyze the level of participation in the design, implementation and evaluation of government programs and policies;
- To evaluate the effectiveness of the current structures in promoting citizens' participation and in influencing decision-making through civil society, media and political parties;

This research focused on three dimensions: analysis of written documents; a quantitative approach; and a qualitative approach.

Information was drawn from program and policy documents related to citizens' participation particularly the laws, the national decentralization policy and Vision 2020. The analysis revealed their relevance, strengths and weaknesses. Literature on participation contributed to the analysis and formulation of possible solutions to improve citizens' participation.

The quantitative approach constitutes the main framework for this research. It allowed the research access to the points of view of various categories of citizens on participation in democratic governance. A questionnaire was designed and distributed to the people who took part in this research.

The qualitative approach provided the opportunity to understand certain social phenomena observed while carrying out the research. It brings out additional thoughts on the critical analysis of the phenomena highlighted by the quantitative approach. For this purpose, an interview guide was developed and used to guide the debates in the various focus groups consulted.

The research was carried out in village settings, with one village (umudugudu) per sector randomly selected, totaling to 20 villages consulted. Guided interviews were also conducted with district authorities (mayors and other local authorities). An interview guide was used to facilitate interviews in one district per province selected by random sampling.

Using the qualitative approach, guided interviews were organized in ten districts, randomly selected. In each of the districts, two sectors were also randomly selected. Forty focus group meetings were organized, two focus group meetings in each of the selected sectors. For the sake of varying and triangulation, two focus group meetings were organized in each sector, involving local leaders on one hand and the local population on the other.

The sample size was calculated based on the number of adults available in a given location (adults being defined as individuals over 16 years of age). According to the Rwanda National Institute of Statistics, the population above 16 years of age makes about 56.3% of the total population, that is, 4,600,000 people approximately. From this data, a minimal sample size was calculated with a 5% confidence interval and an expected 50% prevalence.

The following formula was applied: $Ne = n * DE = N * z^2 * p(1-p) / d^2 (N-1) + Z^2 p(1-p) = 990$ $N = \text{Total population: } 4\,600\,000$, $Z = 95\%$ confidence interval $d = \text{absolute precision: } 4\%$, $p = \text{expected proportion in the population: } 50\%$, $De = \text{Clustering effect: } 2$, $ne = \text{real sample}$. The total population which took part in this research is 1200 people.

10. Identité ethnique et cohésion sociale au Rwanda: Analyse critique des Défis politiques et Socioéconomiques. IRDP/Interpeace: Kigali, 2010. (http://www.interpeace.org/index.php/publications/cat_view/8-publications/11-rwanda) The English version is not available on the web. This research report by Interpeace local partner in Rwanda, the Institute of Research and Dialogue for Peace (IRDP), addresses the question of ethnic identity and social cohesion in Rwanda. It critically analyses the political and social challenges for social cohesion in Rwanda. The report presents the results of consultations with more than 2,256 Rwandans that were conducted in 2009-2010.

Abstract:

Pour éclairer les questions de recherche, l'option prise a été d'utiliser l'approche tant quantitative que qualitative dans le souci de s'appuyer sur les opinions assez représentatives de la population sous étude. Bien entendu, il faudra explorer les documents disponibles et les publications éventuelles en rapport avec la cohésion au sein des sociétés marquées par les conflits à caractère ethnique.

La couverture de tout le territoire national nous a apparu comme une option à privilégier. Ainsi, l'étude a été conduite au sein des quatre provinces et la Ville de Kigali. Dans chaque province au minimum quatre districts ont été choisis aléatoirement. Dans la Ville de Kigali, deux districts ont été choisis aléatoirement.

Nous avons fait appel, dans le choix des secteurs au sein des districts, à une approche raisonnée. Ainsi, deux secteurs par district ont été choisis, l'un localisé dans un

centre urbain (près de l'église, bureau de secteur ou centre de négoce...), l'autre situé en milieu rural afin d'avoir des perceptions les plus diversifiées possibles.

Nous avons considéré le bureau de Secteur comme point de départ pour choisir notre population. Nous avons inclus toutes les habitations qui entourent le Secteur, il s'agit de la méthode bouteille. Il a été tiré au hasard par habitation. Ainsi, un questionnaire a été élaboré à cette fin et a été soumis à 1500 personnes sur tout le territoire du pays. Les données démographiques de la population rwandaise du bureau des statistiques montrent que le chiffre de 1500 personnes représente un échantillon respectable.

Les diverses opinions recueillies sur le territoire avec une approche quantitative ont besoin dans une certaine mesure d'être analysées et relativisées en raison de la complexité de la problématique ethnique comme déterminant sociologique. A cet effet, nous avons pris l'option d'appuyer l'approche quantitative par une démarche qualitative. Pour y parvenir, 34 focus groupes composés d'environ 25 personnes ont été constitués sur tout le territoire national. Dans l'ensemble, nous avons travaillé avec 34 groupes. Parmi eux six groupes ont été montés, à l'aide de nos facilitateurs, pour représenter les catégories particulières de notre société (les rescapés du génocide, les familles avec des membres en prison accusés pour génocide, la communauté Batwa). De même, 20 groupes représentant la diversité de notre société (les jeunes, adultes, femmes, hommes, diverses ethnies) ont été constitués pour débattre sur les questions soulevées par la présente recherche. En outre, trois groupes au sein du programme de l'école du débat ainsi que cinq groupes issus des clubs de dialogue ont participé à cette démarche qualitative, donc un total de 34 groupes.

La diaspora rwandaise constitue une composante particulière de notre population et il est important de prendre en compte ses opinions sur la question délicate de l'identité ethnique. A cet effet, dix groupes ont été constitués et consultés en Europe, en Afrique et Amérique du Nord (Canada, USA).

L'ensemble de la population qui a participé à cette étude tant du point quantitatif que qualitatif se retrouve dans la tranche d'âge comprise entre 16 et 60 ans. Au total 2256 personnes ont participé à la présente étude, soit 1500 dans l'approche quantitative et 756 pour l'approche qualitative.

Pour des besoins de saisie et d'analyse, le logiciel SPSS a été utilisé pour dégager les résultats quantitatifs. De même, le logiciel ATLAS.TI version 5.6.3 a été utilisé pour mettre en évidence les idées issues de l'approche qualitative.

NUR

11. Ernest UWAYEZU and Theodomir MUGIRANEZA. Land Policy Reform in Rwanda and Land Tenure Security for all Citizens: Provision and Recognition of Women's Rights over Land. FIG Working Week 2011, Bridging the Gap between Cultures, Marrakech, Morocco, 18-22 May 2011. Conference presentation. (http://www.fig.net/pub/fig2011/papers/ts04g/ts04g_uwayezu_mugiraneza_4914.pdf)

Abstract:

In Rwanda, for many years, rights over land for women and female orphans were not recognized. The main causes were the inexistence of efficient land administration systems and the prevalence of traditional system of land tenure which were complex and did not favor women and female descendants. In 2004, the Government of Rwanda had adopted a new land policy which was complemented by the 2005 Organic Land Law and a series of laws and regulations with regard to access to land, land management perspectives, and to the modalities of land rights transfer. The main goal of land policy reform in Rwanda is to protect and to enforce land holders' rights and the provision of land tenure security for all citizens without any discrimination. The study investigates the effects the land policy reform on rights over land for widow and female orphans. Data collected from the field survey in five districts of Rwanda and literature review were analyzed using qualitative and interpretative methods, following the principles of impact/outcome evaluation approach. Findings show that the implementation of a new land policy and associate regulations are having a positive impact in safeguard, protection and enforcement of land rights for widow and female orphans. Widow and female orphans are given back their lands previously grabbed by their relatives. However, there is a need to continuously and widely empower widow and female descendants for defending themselves against practices of land grabbing and/or land deprivation through sensitization and reinforcement of land related laws and regulations in place.

12. Bizoza, Alfred R. Stakeholders Involvement in the Implementation of Land Reform in Rwanda. NUR/Center for Environment, Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development. March 23, 2011.

Abstract:

The NUR/CEESD conducted a quick baseline investigation of the impact of Rwanda land reform implementation on sustainable use of natural resources. This quick baseline has various components including the analysis of stakeholders' involvement in the implementation of land reform. The second section provides a historical overview of land issues in Rwanda. Section three presents the methods used for data collection and analysis. Section four outlines results and discussion from data analysis. The final section gives major conclusions and recommendations for successful land reform implementation.

Land reform is taking part in many parts of Rwanda. Reference to the last administrative reform enacted in 2006; the country is subdivided in four provinces, 30 districts, 416 sectors, and about 2 146 cells. Clearly, it is difficult in terms of time and resources to collect data at country level. This study is carried out in four pilot sectors with cells that were purposely selected. The main criteria of their selection are based on the fact that these four cells are considered as pilot cells for the land registration

process and the land reform as whole. They have been selected in four district including Kirehe, Musanze, Huye, and Nyamagabe.

With respect to data collection approaches, we used mainly the focus group discussion and interview with key informants. Focus group discussions were held with members of the land committee at sector and cell levels. However, these discussions were organized separately for the two committees. Each committee is made with 5 people members of the land committee who were selected by local population to facilitate the implementation process of land use and management policies. We also made interview with key informants at District level and have also

13. Habyarimana, Jean-Bosco. The Impact of Land Reform Implementation on Sustainable Use of Natural Resources. NUR/ Center for Environment, Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development. June, 2011.

Abstract:

This paper investigates the contribution of land reform implementation on land conflict management in Rwanda. Based on findings from pilot cells in which land registration was conducted, the paper agrees that land has always been the backbone of developmental initiatives in this country. It then discusses that leaders, particularly during the Second Republic, misused available opportunities to transform Rwandans into unprofessional peasants who will remain poor and uneducated, enough to allow the mal-intentioned politicians stay on power.

This investigative study was carried out at the beginning of the year 2011 in four districts within three different provinces of the country. In each district, one cell of a sector was selected as a pilot site for the implementation of the land reform policy. Government agents worked in those cells to register land, together with cell's land adjudication committee members, in order to put into practice the developed policy to reform the management and use of land in Rwanda. Findings presented and discussed in this research were provided by 38 individuals who agreed to take part in this study. consulted institutions of the central government.

To collect data, investigators used a questionnaire clearly and simply written in Kinyarwanda to help all respondents feel at ease filling it in. In case a respondent was not able to write and/or had very limited time to answer the questionnaire, the researcher used the interview guide to read the questions and put down the answers and/or comments, as detailed as possible.

Landnet/RISD

14. Experiences of women in asserting their land rights: the case of Bugesera District, Rwanda, Rwanda Women's Network: International Land Coalition: Kigali, 2011. (http://www.landcoalition.org/sites/default/files/publication/956/WLR_5_RWN.pdf) A study by the Rwanda Women's Network in cooperation with the International Land Coalition (ILC). The study used review of administrative records, a (very small)

household survey, key stakeholder interviews, case studies and focus group discussions to collect and analyze data on women's experience with access to land in one Rwandan province. This study was converted into a small policy brief that received wide distribution.

Abstract:

“The objectives of this study were: to identify women experiencing challenges in securing access and control over land, to document their experiences in fighting for these rights, to identify impediments to fair settlements of land disputes involving women, and, to work with the women to devise strategies to enforce and protect women's rights to land ownership. The research was conducted in two Sectors in Bugesera district in the Eastern Province of Rwanda. Participants were mostly women involved in various land disputes, mediators (Abunzi), members from the courts, and local leaders from the study area.

This study applied both quantitative and qualitative methods. It was conducted in two sectors of Bugesera district, namely, Nyamata and Gashora. Bugesera is located 40 kilometers from Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, in the Eastern Province close to the Burundian boarder. The study targeted women who had been involved in land disputes in the two sectors of Gashora and Nyamata in Bugesera District. A sampling frame was constructed from the records of land related cases at the Nyamata District court and Abunzi courts in Nyamata, Mwendo, and Maranyundo cells in Nyamata Sector, and Biryogo, Kayumba, and Kabuye cells in Gashora. This frame yielded a total of 147 women. A total of 5016 women were traced in 15 villages. Survey coverage was determined by ease of traceability of women in Gashora and Nyamata Sectors and in proceeding sectors. Furthermore, four women were selected for in-depth interviews based on their cases. Members of the Abunzi in 10 Cells were specifically targeted for data because of their experiences in dealing with land disputes involving women.

Data extraction

Information on the particulars of land-related cases reported to the Abunzi and the Court was extracted from their records through a pre-designed form. Of the 147 women identified, 70 were from the Abunzi, and 77 from the court.

Household survey

Fifty women were traced and interviewed using a semi-structured questionnaire. The questionnaire focused on: personal information of the respondent, ownership of land in dispute, type of land disputes, challenges faced in resolving disputes, knowledge of the existing laws, as well as strategies and recommendations.

Focus group discussion (FGD) meetings

A total of 30 participants, or half of the membership of the Abunzi, including 18 women, participated in the two FGDs. Discussions followed a theme guide which included the following: types of land-related cases handled by the informal mediation

committees, parties involved, tools available to the committees, challenges faced by women and how they can be overcome, challenges faced by the committees and how they can be overcome, and rating of the fairness of the arbitration institutions.

In-depth interviews

In-depth interviews with eight land administrators at the national level were carried out. The administrators included: the Registrar of Land Titles (Office of the Registrar of Land Titles), an Attorney working with Rural Development Institute, a Land Commission Representative in Bugesera District, the President of the Nyamata Lower Instance Court, a National Women's Council Representative in Bugesera District, Agronome, and the Executive Secretaries of Nyamata and Gashora Sectors. Their insights and knowledge assisted the research team to decide which of the 15 sectors in the district were suitable for the study.

The limitations of this study are threefold. First, the time frame of the study was too short for adequate data collection. For instance, researchers had to abandon the plan to observe Abunzi proceedings or court sessions involving women because no such cases were handled during the period of the study. Secondly, there were problems tracing the women involved in land disputes as some had moved or died, and some who were traced were unwilling to share their experiences because of fears that local authorities were implicated in their cases. Thirdly, the limited geographical and population coverage of the study does not provide a representative picture of the country as a whole."

15. Kairaba, Annie and James Dale Simons. Impact on the Land Reform of Land Rights and Economic Poverty Reduction of the Majority Rural and Especially Women Who Depend on Land for their Livelihoods, RISD: Kigali, 2011.

(http://www.risdrwanda.org/IMG/pdf/RISD_and_IS_report.pdf.)

A study carried out by Rwanda Initiative for Sustainable Development in cooperation with the Netherlands IS Academy and funded by the Dutch Government. The guiding question of the study is "the link between land governance, sustainable development and poverty alleviation." It compared the experiences of two adjoining Rwandan districts in one of which land title regularization had been completed and one in which it had not yet begun. The study developed research questions and key indicators used small household surveys, key stakeholder interviews and review of administrative records.

Abstract:

"The study aimed at analyzing the impact of LTRP especially on women. This was done through comparing Rwaza Sector in Musanze District, where LTRP has been implemented and Kinyinya Sector in Gasabo District, where LTRP had not yet started. Recognizing and being sensitive to the socio-economic differences between the selected sectors, an interview guide was used paying particular attention to four

main areas of enquiry, based on proposed key areas of the LTRP: land ownership, land registration, gender equity and expropriation.

Quantitative data was collected through semi-structured interviews where questionnaires were administered to 100 households selected by random sampling from each Sector. An interview guide was used to collect data from Focus Group Discussions (FGDs). Two FGD meetings each with 15 to 20 participants and with priority given to women were conducted in each Sector. These interviews targeted local leaders' committees at cell level who included members of land committees, mediators, youth committee, women's council and village leaders. The focus group interviews were found very important because each of the identified focus group has specific information and experience in relation to the impact of the LTRP and in particular in relation to land rights of women and knowledge of land related issues including the understanding of land related disputes in the area and the existing management mechanism.

Sector	Cell	Total households	Sampled household
			Total
Rwaza	Kabushinge	1,051	23
	Nturo	1,028	22
	Nyarubuye	961	21
	Musezero	939	20
	Bumara	645	14
Total		4,624	100
Kinyinya	Kagugu	4,537	56
	Gacuriro,	1,864	23
	Murama	927	11
	Gasharu	801	10
Total		8129	100

Focus groups for Religious Leaders and Opinion Leaders were also organized and interviewed, because Church in Rwanda own the biggest land in the country, while the word of Opinion Leaders is well respected in the society and consulted very often on land related issues in the community. Field data was also collected through observation by the field team.”

Legal Aid Forum

16. Monitoring of EDPRS Indicators in the Justice Sector, 2008-2009, LAF: Kigali, 2009. (available on LAF website; http://www.legalaidrwanda.org/en/publications/doc_details/9-monitoring-of-edprs-indicators-in-the-justice-sector-august-2008--january-2009). This study included a significant survey of a purposive sample (litigants and other justice sector

participants) to track access to justice indicators of the first Rwanda Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy; relied on human resources of membership to staff field teams; good data analysis and presentation; demonstrates an ability to define indicators and construct a research design to collect relevant data.

Abstract:

“It appears from the above that the mission and the objectives of the Legal Aid Forum fall within the scope of the implementation of the strategic objective defined by the EDPRS in the Justice Sector, i.e. universal access to quality justice. It is in this framework that the Legal Aid Forum wished to carry out an evaluation of access to justice from the first year of implementation of the EDPRS (2008). Concrete data must be possessed prior to determining the actions to adopt in order to fulfill the EDPRS indicators in the Justice Sector by 2012.

The Legal Aid Forum believes that universal access to quality justice implies among others:

1. Efficient and speedy judicial proceedings;
2. Reasonable costs of access to justice for the litigant. Equality before the law may be achieved only if litigants can meet the necessary costs;
3. Accessible and available services of legal advice and of representation in court enabling litigants to ensure the good defense of their cases.

With respect to these elements, the EDPRS suggests some indicators of the development of justice from 2008 to 2012. These are:

- Determine the number and categories of vulnerable groups/indigent persons who have access to legal aid services and reduce the costs of access to justice by setting up an institutional framework on legal aid and a legal aid fund in favor of vulnerable/indigent persons, the creation of one MAJ per district, the reduction of the distance between the litigant and the court from 6 km to 2 km;
- Improve judicial performances, by reducing, among other, the length of proceedings from an average of 6 months to an average of 2 months per case, and the average cost of prosecuting a case in court from 150,000 to 90,000 Rwandan francs.

Accordingly, the Legal Aid Forum identified the three following indicators in the framework of this monitoring process:

1. Cost of access to justice for the litigant;
2. Availability and accessibility of services of representation in court and legal advice;
3. Length of the process of judgment.

A specific methodology has been adopted for this monitoring process of EDPRS indicators in the Justice Sector. It can be presented in various parts as follow: techniques of data collection, determination of the field of the study, training of interviewers and supervisors of the survey, test of the tools, verification of the data and data analysis methods. Techniques of documentation, questionnaire and sampling were used for the preparation and carrying out of data collection.

Given the impossibility to interview all litigants, it was decided that the monitoring would take place at 5 Higher Instance Courts (HIC), one for each province and at 2 Lower Instance Courts (LIC) of the jurisdiction of each HIC. In total, 10 LIC spread over the jurisdiction of the 5 chosen HIC have hence been selected. The choice among the HIC was made according to their size, on the basis of the number of pending cases on 31 December 2007. Among the 5 HIC selected, 2 had a large number of pending cases, 1 had an average number of pending cases and 2 a relatively small number of pending cases. The selection of the 2 LIC of the jurisdiction of each identified HIC was made according to their geographical location: one LIC in rural area and one LIC in urban areas were always selected. The combination of these criteria guarantees the representativeness of the results on a national scale.”

17. Broadening Access to Justice in Rwanda: Analysis of the Opportunity for Public Interest Litigation, The Legal Aid Forum, Kigali – Rwanda, 2011;(*available on LAF website; http://www.legalaidrwanda.org/en/publications/doc_details/51-broadening-access-to-justice-in-rwanda-analysing-the-opportunity-for-public-interest-litigation*). Used key stakeholder interviews, case studies and international best practice research to make argument for initiation of public interest litigation in Rwanda. Primarily qualitative research using legal and case analysis.

Abstract:

“In carrying out research to determine the current understanding of the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) concepts and their applicability under Rwandan law the author of this paper ... talked to a number of practitioners - judges, advocates and NGO lawyers. The majority seemed to be of the opinion that the law was open to both concepts being argued before the courts and that a well prepared creative approach would be taken seriously by the judiciary some of whom would welcome it. One advocate with some experience of citing international law to support his oral arguments was less optimistic about the openness of the judges. However another had found they welcomed the citation of foreign cases. This author also talked to one academic who was more conservative on the limits of the civil law based system. However, in this author’s discussions with the author of the previous study, (also an academic), the latter agreed that the law on standing was undefined and unclear and indeed could and should be tested in the courts. Further, the general consensus on standing amongst practitioners was that a constitutional challenge does not require the harm to be experienced by the petitioner whilst in civil matters the law as it stands does require the interested party to have experienced the harm in order to show the causal link for

damages to be awarded or an injunction to be obtained, though there seemed to be no barrier to an organization showing this. With this practical basis of understanding, this document proceeds as follows: Firstly, an analysis of standing and amicus curiae in Rwanda and other countries; Secondly, a look at the various types of PIL cases that could be attempted in Rwanda and the legal arguments to be made as well as some examples of relevant socio-economic cases; and Thirdly, a discussion of the bigger picture and strategy needed for PIL to succeed in Rwanda.”

18. Report on the Legal Aid Baseline and Needs Analysis Survey. A collaborative report of the several organizations, including LAF, HAGARUKA, Human Rights First, The NUR Legal Clinic, The Kigali Bar Association, Norwegian People’ Aid, The Danish Institute for Human Rights, and The Ministry of Justice. Kigali, 2007 (*available on LAF website; http://www.legalaidrwanda.org/en/publications/doc_details/11-a-report-of-the-legal-aid-baseline-and-needs-analysis-survey*). National survey of purposive sample of citizens, legal aid providers and local government and justice sector officials; also included Focus Group Discussions and key stakeholder interviews; research done in cooperation with Ministry of Justice; research conducted with aid of international consultant who helped prepare the research design, but using human resources of member organizations to carry out field work.

Abstract:

“A cross–sectional and descriptive research design was used. The study adopted both a qualitative and quantitative approach to data collection and analysis, and considered well-known legal aid providers as the main study groups. The study adopted a broad understanding of legal aid as understood through the Legal Aid Triangle representing: access to legal information; legal advice and assistance; and legal representation.

The main respondents in this survey were legal aid providers, clients and potential clients of legal aid services, community leaders and mediators (Abunzi and Nyobozi), NGOs, relevant district and sector authorities, police and prison officers, members of the judiciary and prosecution service, members of the Kigali Bar Association and the Corps of Judicial Defenders. To increase the validity and reliability of data obtained from the baseline and needs analysis survey, the selection of sampling units was carried out purposively. In this case, it was decided that the best information would be obtained from clearly identified respondents, who were deemed to be familiar with legal aid service provision, related policy matters and coverage. Table 2 shows respondent groups and their respective locations (province).

Preparation for data collection involved among others, planning meetings with the Steering Committee, the Ministry of Justice and the National Statistics Office, training of survey team members, development and pre-testing of research instruments, and establishing contacts with relevant persons in the selected districts for the survey activities.

A total of twenty survey team members; ten from legal aid providing organizations and ten independently recruited were selected from several applicants. The aim of involving legal service providers in the field work was to ensure that the skills learnt remain within the sector and that the service providers themselves gained firsthand experience of the needs in the selected districts. A training workshop was held for members of the survey team at the SOS Children's Home, Kigali from 28 November - 2 December 2006."

INES

19. INES Scientific Journal. <http://www.ines.ac.rw/ines%20scientific%20journal.html>.

Abstract:

The recent edition of the Journal included the following articles:

Languages – Literature – Education

Dr Olimba Emedi Kavain focuses his analysis on semiotics approach in a Rwandese tales. Ndovya Mundala shows that from a pragmatic interpretation of oral African works, we can easily understand and explain some social facts. Bernard Farini Luendo analyzes how motivation, language practice and pedagogy through well structured Cooperative Learning Activities might be the key to genuine communication competence. Paluku Kasemengo and co. aim to demonstrate the conceptions of the pupils at the end of 4th secondary year about the notion of inequation.

Biotechnologies and Land Survey

Faustin Nkubito deals with a relative sensibility of some medicinal lift seedlings tried out on Escherchia coli bacterium. His second study shows how disease treatment from medicinal plants depends on disease pathogenic bacteria and the medicinal plant used to that aim. Prof. Dr. Francis Dominicus Nzabuheraheza focuses his topic on a tentative to use local raw materials for soap using plants extracts from iresine, salvia and persea.

Economics-Rural Development-Management – Statistics

Jean Bosco Harelimana and Aristide Maniriho analyze micro-finance strategies adopted on the way of financial timelessness and the wrestling against different crisis. Banzi Wellars looks into presentation of the methods of determination of the sample size in order to estimate to a given precision the population means. Jean Félix A. Ntakiyimana's first study deals with a good performance management which includes identifying goals, measures to indicate if the goals are being met or not. His second study purports the role of feedback in any organization. Fr. Dr Hagenimana's article deals with the need for a diagnosis of the instability and crisis of values in the world.

ANNEX 1 – SELF ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Land Project, Rwanda

Organizational Capabilities Self Assessment

Dear []:

The USAID sponsored LAND project has as one of its main objectives to identify and improve through targeted technical assistance the abilities of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Rwanda to conduct high-quality, evidence-based research on issues in the land sector. CSOs participating in the program may include national and local organizations that have as one of their main objectives the creation of high quality research that can contribute in a positive way to the national policy dialogue on land issues. The project will support a broad range of land issue research, including for example land tenure, land use, land and gender, land tenure regularization, land and poverty, access to land, conflict resolution and agricultural productivity. The project will proceed over the coming months through competitive opportunities for Rwandan research entities and CSOs to undertake relevant land policy research with technical assistance to build skills in research and policy advocacy.

At this time we are trying to inventory the many research entities and CSOs in Rwanda that have an interest in this work to identify their research capabilities. This will allow us to better design and target the types of assistance the project provides, and also to identify those organizations that have demonstrated particular skills and interest in land-related research and advocacy. To that end we have prepared this self-assessment form to be completed by interested CSOs.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would complete this self-assessment form on behalf of your organization and return it to us. The form is in WORD format and can be completed electronically and returned by email to Christine Murekatete, our Capacity Building Advisor, at cmurekatete@land-project.org. Otherwise, it can be delivered to our offices in Nyurarama. Please call Christine for directions: 0788 454 283.

To follow up and respond to any questions you may have we will contact you in the next several weeks. In the meantime if you have any questions about this form please don't hesitate to contact Christine Murekatete at +250 788 454 283.

Start of Self-Assessment Form

1. Name of organization:

2. Name, title and contact information (address; email; telephone) of person completing this questionnaire.
3. If different from question 2, please provide the name, address, email and telephone of the person in your organization who may we contact to follow up with this questionnaire.
4. Please provide a brief general description of your organization, including such information as when and how it was created, how it is managed, its membership, staffing and overall purpose.
5. Please summarize the mission and main objectives of your organization in a few sentences.
6. Please describe the main activities the organization pursues to achieve its objectives. *(For example technical assistance, community organizing, education and training, research and advocacy, etc.)*
7. Using the following table please tell us the total budget for your organization in each of the past 5 years and the approximate portion of the budget allocated to research and advocacy purposes.

Year	Total Budget (Rwandan Francs)	Approximate % of Budget Allocated to Research and Advocacy
2012		
2011		
2010		
2009		
2008		

8. Please describe whether the organization engages with the Government of Rwanda in carrying out any of its activities. If so, how?
9. Has your organization cooperated with or received any technical assistance from an international aid organization (e.g. USAID, World Bank, DFID) or other foreign entity (e.g. a university or research institute) to conduct research? If yes, please identify the entity and describe the nature of the cooperation or technical assistance received.

10. Please describe the organization's staff with expertise relevant to land-related research and advocacy. *(For example, numbers and specializations of staff, their responsibilities, training and prior experience.)*

11. Using the below example, please provide a few examples of recent research activities conducted by the organization, including the research topic and methodology. In particular, please highlight land-related research. If the project has not engaged in research activities in the past 3 years, please write 'none.' *If possible, please also provide us in the table with the information about where we can find a research report on the web. If a report is not on the web, we would be grateful if you could send a digital copy of the report to us when you return this questionnaire.*

Example

Author	Rwanda Women's Network			
Title	<u>Experiences of women in asserting their land rights: the case of Bugesera District, Rwanda</u>			
Year	2011			
Research topic	Women's experience with access to land in one Rwandan province.			
Funding	International Land Coalition (ILC)			
Methodology	Review of administrative records, a (very small) household survey; key stakeholder interviews; case studies and focus group discussions			
Can this research be found on the web? If so, where?	http://www.landcoalition.org/publications/experiences-women-asserting-their-land-rights-case-bugesera-district			
Digital copy of this report sent?	Yes		No	√

Author				
Title				
Year				
Research topic				
Funding				
Methodology				
Can this research be found on the web? If so, where?				
Digital copy of this report sent?	Yes		No	

<i>Author</i>				
<i>Title</i>				
<i>Year</i>				
<i>Research topic</i>				
<i>Funding</i>				
<i>Methodology</i>				
<i>Can this research be found on the web? If so, where?</i>	Yes		No	
<i>Digital copy of this report sent?</i>				

12. Using the following table please describe the types of research tools the organization has used in its research activities. Research tools include, for example, household surveys, focus groups, key stakeholder interviews, review of administrative records, case studies, etc. Please add tools not listed in the spaces provided.

Research Tools	Yes	No
Household or other surveys		
Focus groups		
Key stakeholder interviews		
Case studies		
Review of administrative records		
Literature reviews		
Statistical analysis		
Others (please specify):		

13. Is the organization planning to research any land-related issues in the near future? If yes, please describe below which land issues the research will address and what strategy the organization will use to translate the research into policy.

14. Does your organization engage in any of the following advocacy activities?

Advocacy Activity	Yes	No
Policy notes and reports		
Dialogue with government officials		
Dialogue with Parliamentarians		
Conferences, workshops and seminars		
Press conferences, media kits, interviews, etc.		
Community meetings		
Pamphlets, brochures and other printed materials		
Other (describe)		

15. If you answered ‘yes’ to any of the activities listed in the previous question, please describe the specific focus of the advocacy activity(ies):
16. Does your organization possess any particular resources or capabilities when it comes to research and advocacy activities on land issues? For example, particular staff capabilities, regional networks and relationships, etc. If yes, please describe.
17. If your organization is interested in strengthening its capabilities to conduct empirical research and policy advocacy on land issues, what training or other assistance would help?